PAPERS

LAID BEFORE THE

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

OF

CEYLON.

EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF 1883.
ORDINARY SESSION OF 1883-4.

Colombo:
GEORGE J. A. SKEEN, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1884.

(143) I/163

Title: Papers laid before the legislative Council of Ceylon. 1883-84

4834

CONTENTS.

No.			Page.
--	Proceedings ...	—— of the Legislative Council, Session of 1883-1884 ...	v
1	Colombo Harbour Works	Replies to Questions referred to the Consulting Engineer (in continuation of No XXXVII. of 1882)	1
2	Penal and Criminal Codes.	Correspondence relating to the revision of the Draft —— ...	5
3	Pearl Banks ...	Report of a recent inspection of the —— by Captain J. Donnan ..	19
4	Riots at Kotahéna ...	Report of a Commission appointed to inquire into the causes which led to the recent ——	23
5	Fish-Curing ...	Memorandum by the Hon. the Auditor-General on a proposal to issue Salt at reduced prices for ——	39
6	Grain Tax Commutation	Report on the Commutation Settlements of the Kalutara District, the Four Kóralés, the Three Kóralés, and Lower Bulatgama (in continuation of No. XVI. of 1882)	47
7	"Tartar Rock" (Colombo Harbour.)	Correspondence relating to a proposal to remove a portion of the ——	55
8	Village Tribunals ...	A Statement showing the Districts, Presidents, their Salaries and Staffs, and the number and the nature of the Cases disposed of during the year 1882	59
9	New Lunatic Asylum ...	Despatches relating to the —— (in continuation of No. XXII. of 1882)	63
10	Code for Aided Schools	—— showing Amendments proposed for 1884	77
11	Municipal Benches of Magistrates.	Opinions of the Municipal Councils on the proposal to restrict the jurisdiction of the ——	97
12	Criminal Procedure Code.	Report of a Sub-Committee of Council on the Bill intituled "An Ordinance for regulating the Procedure of the Courts of Criminal Judicature"	107
13	Cash Balances of the Colony.	Statements showing the —— as on the latest date at which they have been ascertained	115
14	The North-Central Province.	Minute by Lieutenant-Governor Sir J. Douglas, K.C.M.G., relative to a recent visit to Anurádhapura	119
15	Fish-Curing ...	Replies of certain Government Agents and their Assistants to questions relating to the reduction in the price of Salt for —— (in continuation of No. V.)	123
16	The Floods of 1883 ...	Copy of a letter from the Resident Engineer of the Colombo Waterworks showing the highest levels reached by the floods in May, 1883, between Colombo and Hanwella	149
17	Retrenchment ...	Despatch from the Secretary of State embodying observations upon the Report of the Select Committee appointed to enquire into the Financial depression of the Colony	153
18	Supply Bill, 1884 ...	Report of a Sub-Committee of Council on the —— ..	167
19	Supplementary Supply Bill, 1883.	Report of a Sub-Committee of Council on the —— ...	173
20	Details of Arrears of Revenue.	Return to an Order of Council dated 19th December, 1883 ...	177
21	New Lunatic Asylum ...	Despatches relating to the —— (in continuation of No. IX) ...	181
22	Bill amending Wharf and Warehouse Ordinance.	Report of a Sub-Committee of Council on the —— ...	191
23	Financial Statements . .	—— laid before Council during the Session of 1883-84 ...	195
24	Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund Bill.	Report of a Sub-Committee of Council on the —— ...	223
25	Cooly Wages Bill ...	Report of a Sub-Committee of Council on the —— ...	229
26	Grain Tax Commutation	Reports on the Commutation Settlements of certain divisions of the Galle and Mátara Districts	233
27	Penal and Criminal Procedure Codes.	Despatch from the Right Hon. the Secretary of State relating to the passage of the —— through Council	243

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

EXTRAORDINARY SESSION.

Wednesday, 18th July, 1883.

PRESENT:

SIR J. DOUGLAS, K.C.M.G., PRESIDENT.

The Hon. Lieut.-Colonel J. DUNCAN,
The Hon. W. H. RAVENSCROFT,
The Hon. F. FLEMING,
The Hon. R. W. D. MOIR,
The Hon. W. D. WRIGHT,
The Hon. F. R. SAUNDERS,
The Hon. W. E. T. SHARPE,
The Hon. J. STODDART,
The Hon. J. VANLANGENBERG,
The Hon. P. RÁMA-NÁTHAN,
The Hon. W. W. MITCHELL,
The Hon. A. L. DE ALWIS,
The Hon. J. L. SHAND.

1. MEMBERS SWORN.—The necessary oaths were taken by the Hon. Lieut.-Colonel J. Duncan, the Hon. F. Fleming, the Hon. R. W. D. Moir, and the Hon. W. E. T. Sharpe.

2. PAPERS.—The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the following papers:—

Sessional Paper No. I. of 1883.—Colombo Harbour Works: Replies to Questions referred to the Consulting Engineer.

Do. II. „ —Correspondence relating to the revision of the draft Penal and Criminal Codes.

Do. III. „ —Pearl Banks: Report of a recent inspection of the Pearl Banks by Captain J. Donnan.

Do. IV. „ —The Kotahéna Riots: Report of a Commission appointed by the Governor to inquire into the causes which led to the recent riots at Kotahéna.

3. OPENING OF SESSION.—His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor opened the Extraordinary Session with the following Address:—

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

I HAVE called you together for the purpose of considering at an Extraordinary Session of this Council, the important measures of reform in the criminal administration of justice in Ceylon, the introduction of which was promised when we separated early in the current year.

These measures consist of a Penal Code and of a Criminal Procedure Code, which have been drafted with great care and ability by the Chief Justice in consultation with the Colonial Office. The thanks of this Council are justly due to Mr. Burnside for the labour which he has bestowed upon the important and difficult task of placing the administration of justice in this Colony upon a clear and intelligible basis. The uncertainty of our criminal law has for years past been recognized as a crying evil, and it is now nearly seven years since the first serious attempt was made by the then Queen's Advocate, Sir R. Cayley, to provide an adequate remedial measure.

That attempt and other subsequent attempts have fallen through owing, in the main, to changes in the *personnel* of our judicial establishments. One good result may, however, be deemed as having to some extent counterbalanced the delay, namely, that the subject has in the interval received that exhaustive consideration which it deserves in view of the magnitude of the interests involved in it.

While there is much in the Codes which is mere matter of detail, there are, on the other hand, many points which deserve, and will, I am confident, receive, full discussion and consideration in the Council.

It is a matter of personal regret to myself that it should not have been in the power of Sir James Longden to have introduced to you before his departure from the Island these measures, in which His Excellency had taken a special interest, and to which he had given a large share of his attention.

It is not my intention to introduce any other measures on the part of Government during this Extraordinary Session.

4. LAW OFFICERS' TITLES BILL.—On the motion of the Queen's Advocate, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance relating to the Law Officers of the Crown and to the Deputies to the Queen's Advocate," was read a first time, and the second reading fixed for the next meeting of Council.

5. PENAL CODE.—On the motion of the Queen's Advocate, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, the Billi ntituled "An Ordinance to provide a General Penal Code for this Colony," was read a first time, and the second reading fixed for next meeting of Council.

6. CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CODE.—On the motion of the Queen's Advocate, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance for regulating the Procedure of the Courts of Criminal Judicature, was read a first time, and the second reading fixed for next meeting of Council.

On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, the Council at its rising adjourned to Wednesday, the 25th July, at 2 o'clock P.M.

Wednesday, 25th July, 1883.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor took the chair.

2. Proceedings of the last meeting read.

3. PAPERS.—The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the following Papers :—

Fish-curing in Ceylon: Memorandum by the Hon. the Auditor-General on the subject of a proposal to issue salt at reduced prices for fish-curing.

Letter from the Registrar-General, No. 229 of 20th July, in explanation of certain vital statistics published for the first quarter of 1883.

Return to an Order of the Legislative Council, dated 4th October, 1882, "That a Statement be furnished showing the cost of the Great and Little Basses Lights and the annual revenue derived therefrom."

4. BILL RELATING TO LAW OFFICERS OF THE CROWN AND TO DEPUTIES TO THE QUEEN'S ADVOCATE.—On the motion of the Queen's Advocate, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, the Bill was read a second time, and the Council went into Committee thereon. In Committee the Hon. J. VanLangenberg moved that the Bill be referred to a Sub-Committee.

THE COUNCIL DIVIDED.

Ayes.	*Noes.*
The Hon. A. L. De Alwis,	The Hon. J. L. Shand,
The Hon. J. VanLangenberg,	The Hon. W. W. Mitchell,
The Queen's Advocate.	The Surveyor-General,
	The Government Agent, Central Province,
	The Government Agent, Western Province,
	The Treasurer,
	The Auditor-General,
	The Colonial Secretary,
	The Officer Commanding Troops.

Ayes 3; Noes 9; Majority 6.—Motion lost.

The Queen's Advocate having reported the Bill unamended, the report was adopted. On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, the Committee reported progress, and the further consideration of the Bill in Committee was deferred for a future meeting of Council.

5. PENAL CODE.—On the motion of the Queen's Advocate, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, the Bill was read a second time, and the Council went into Committee thereon. The Queen's Advocate having reported progress, the report was adopted, and the further consideration of the Bill in Committee was fixed for the 26th July, at 3 o'clock P.M.

6. CRIMINAL PROCEDURE BILL.—On the motion of the Queen's Advocate, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, the Bill was read a second time, and the Council went into Committee thereon. In Committee, the further consideration of the Bill was deferred.

On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, the Council at its rising adjourned till Thursday, the 26th July, at 3 o'clock P.M.

Thursday, 26th July, 1883.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor took the chair.

2. PENAL CODE.—The Council in Committee resumed consideration of the Bill.

Clause 70.

Motion made and question put, "that this clause stand part of the Bill."

THE COUNCIL DIVIDED.

Ayes.	*Noes.*
The Government Agent, Western Province,	The Hon. J. L. Shand,
The Queen's Advocate.	The Hon. A. L. De Alwis,
	The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan,
	The Hon. J. VanLangenberg,
	The Surveyor-General,
	The Government Agent, Central Province,
	The Treasurer,
	The Auditor-General,
	The Colonial Secretary,
	The Officer Commanding Troops,
	His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor.

Ayes 2; Noes 11; Majority 9.—Clause omitted.

Clause 161.

Motion made and question put, "that this clause stand part of the Bill."

THE COUNCIL DIVIDED.

Ayes.	*No.*
The Hon. J. L. Shand,	The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan.
The Hon. J. VanLangenberg,	
The Surveyor-General,	
The Government Agent, Central Province,	
The Government Agent, Western Province,	
The Treasurer,	
The Auditor-General,	
The Queen's Advocate,	
The Colonial Secretary,	
The Officer Commanding Troops,	
His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor.	

Ayes, 11; No, 1; Majority, 10.—Clause carried.

On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, the Council at its rising adjourned till Wednesday, the 1st August, at 2 o'clock P.M.

Wednesday, 1st August, 1883.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor took the chair.
2. Proceedings of the meetings of the 25th and 26th July read.
3. PAPERS.—The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the following Papers:—

   Sessional Paper No. VI. of 1883.—Grain Tax Commutation: Reports on the Commutation Settlements of the Kalutara District, the Four Kóralés, the Three Kóralés, and Lower Bulatgama (under the provisions of "The Grain Tax Ordinance, 1878.")

   Sessional Paper No. VII. of 1883.—Colombo Harbour: Correspondence relating to a proposal to remove a portion of the 'Tartar Rock.'
4. KOSPALANKISSA BRIDGE.—The Hon. W. W. Mitchell, pursuant to notice, asked if Government intended to construct a new bridge over the lagoon, in place of the one removed, on the road between Moraṭuwa and Kęsbęwa.

   The Colonial Secretary replied.
5. BULATKOHOPITIYA ROAD.—The Hon. W. W. Mitchell, pursuant to notice, asked if Government intended to include in the Estimates for 1884 a vote for the extension of the Bulatkohopiṭiya road, to afford an outlet for the new tea district between Western Dolosbágé and Ruanwęlla.

   The Colonial Secretary replied.
6. SCHEME OF WHARF IMPROVEMENT AND EXTENSION.—The Hon. W. W. Mitchell, pursuant to notice, asked when Government contemplated being able to carry out a comprehensive scheme of wharf improvement and extension; also, if Government would, in the meantime, lease the Queen's warehouses at the wharf to private individuals, or to a public company if formed.

   The Colonial Secretary replied.
7. REPORT OF RETRENCHMENT COMMITTEE.—The Hon. J. L. Shand, pursuant to notice, asked whether any reply had been received to the Report of the Select Committee on Retrenchment from the Secretary of State, and called for papers.

   Seconded by the Hon. W. W. Mitchell.

   The Colonial Secretary replied, stating that there were no papers.

8. List of Churches receiving Government Contribution and Patronage.—The Hon. W. W. Mitchell, pursuant to notice, moved for—

(1) List of churches towards the erection of which Government had contributed;

(2) List of churches where Government had exercised patronage, stating from what fund or funds the clergyman's stipend was paid;

(3) A statement showing for each church in the Island in detail in whom patronage vests, and when Government patronage ceases.

Seconded by the Hon. J. L. Shand.

The Colonial Secretary replied.

Motion agreed to.

9. Penal Code.—The Council in Committee resumed consideration of this Bill. The Chairman having reported progress, the further consideration of the Bill in Committee was fixed for the 2nd August, 1883.

On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, the Council at its rising adjourned till Thursday, the 2nd August, at 2 o'clock P.M.

Thursday, 2nd August, 1883.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor took the chair.

2. Penal Code.—The Council in Committee resumed consideration of the Code. The Chairman reported progress, and the further consideration of the Bill in Committee was fixed for next meeting.

On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, the Council at its rising adjourned till Wednesday, the 8th August, at 2 o'clock P.M.

Wednesday, 8th August, 1883.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor took the chair.

2. Proceedings of the meetings of the 1st and 2nd August read.

3. Paper.—The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the following Paper :—

Forest Administration of Ceylon : Report on the Conservation and Administration of the Crown Forests in Ceylon, by F. D'A. Vincent, Esq.

4. Penal Code.—The Council in Committee resumed consideration of this Bill. The Chairman having reported progress, the further consideration of the Bill in Committee was fixed for the 11th August, 1883.

5. Criminal Procedure Code.—The Council in Committee resumed consideration of this Bill.

The Hon. J. VanLangenberg gave notice of the following motions :—

(1) That proceedings with the view to a committal for trial of a party accused before a superior court be as heretofore conducted by a Justice of the Peace.

(2) That no party accused be committed for trial by a Justice of the Peace except upon the direction of the Queen's Advocate.

On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, the Council at its rising adjourned till Saturday, the 11th August, at 2 o'clock P.M.

Saturday, 11th August, 1883.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor took the chair.

2. Proceedings of the last meeting read.

3. Penal Code.—The Council in Committee resumed consideration of this Bill. The Hon. the Chief Justice attended upon invitation, and was examined as a witness. The Chairman reported progress, and the further consideration of the Bill in Committee was postponed for a future date.

4. Criminal Procedure Bill.—The Council in Committee resumed consideration of this Bill.

The Hon. J. VanLangenberg moved "that proceedings with the view to a committal for trial of a party accused before a superior court be as heretofore conducted by a Justice of the Peace."

THE COUNCIL DIVIDED.

Ayes.	*Noes.*
The Hon. A. L. De Alwis,	The Government Agent, Central Province,
The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan,	The Government Agent, Western Province,
The Hon. J. VanLangenberg.	The Treasurer,
	The Auditor-General,
	The Queen's Advocate,
	The Colonial Secretary,
	The Officer Commanding Troops,
	His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor.

Ayes, 3; Noes, 8; Majority, 5.—Motion lost.

On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, the Council at its rising adjourned till Monday, the 13th instant, at 2 o'clock P.M.

Monday, 13th August, 1883.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor took the chair.
2. Proceedings of the last meeting read.
3. PENAL CODE.—The Council in Committee resumed consideration of the Bill. The Chairman reported progress, and the further consideration of the Bill in Committee was deferred for a future date.
4. CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CODE.—The Council in Committee resumed consideration of this Bill. The Chairman reported progress, and the further consideration of the Bill in Committee was fixed for the next meeting of Council.

On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, the Council at its rising adjourned till Wednesday, the 15th instant, at 2 o'clock P.M.

Wednesday, 15th August, 1883.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor took the chair.
2. Proceedings of the last meeting read.
3. CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CODE.—The Council in Committee resumed consideration of this Bill.

Clause 53, *line* 2. The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan moved to omit the following words: "And all Headmen and Peace Officers."

THE COUNCIL DIVIDED.

Ayes.	*Noes.*
The Hon. J. L. Shand,	The Surveyor-General,
The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan,	The Government Agent, Central Province,
The Hon. J. VanLangenberg.	The Government Agent, Western Province,
	The Treasurer,
	The Auditor-General,
	The Queen's Advocate,
	The Colonial Secretary,
	The Officer Commanding Troops,
	His Excellency the Governor.

Ayes, 3; Noes, 9; Majority, 6.—Motion lost; clause carried.

The Chairman reported progress, and, on the motion of the Colonial Secretary, the Council at its rising adjourned till Wednesday, the 22nd August, at 2 o'clock P.M.

Wednesday, 22nd August, 1883.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor took the chair.
2. Proceedings of the last meeting read.
3. PAPERS.—The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the following Papers:—

A Statement showing the Districts, Presidents, their Salaries and Staffs, and the Number and the nature of the Cases disposed of during the year 1882.

Despatches relating to the New Lunatic Asylum.

4. NÁNU-OYA RAILWAY.—The Hon. W. W. Mitchell, pursuant to notice, asked—

"(1) What was the total amount of the Engineer's estimate of cost of the Nánu-oya section of railway extension as finally passed by Sir C. H. Gregory, Consulting Engineer.

"(2) Whether the accepted tender of Messrs. T. Nowell & Co. for construction (taking the lump sum, Rs. 7,218,144) shows any saving on that portion of the Engineer's estimate.

"(3) Whether the Government has any reason to suppose that the Engineer's estimate will be exceeded in respect of expenditure outside the Contract.

"(4) Whether the balance of the million pounds sterling raised under debentures for the Nánu-oya section may be considered available for the Haputalé section of railway."

The Colonial Secretary replied.

5. MILITARY CONTRIBUTION.—The Hon. W. W. Mitchell, pursuant to notice, asked—

"Whether the Seven-years' arrangement referred to in the Despatches of 1867, at the end of which the Ceylon Military Contribution was to be reviewed, was ever observed, and whether any formal review of the compact entered into between the Colony and the mother-country has taken place since that time."

The Colonial Secretary replied.

6. WIDOWS' PENSION FUND.—His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor announced the receipt from the Secretary of State for the Colonies of the Actuary's calculations for the proposed Widows' Fund.

7. PENAL CODE.—The Council in Committee resumed consideration of this Bill.

Clause 398 (*now clause* 395.)

The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan moved to insert the following illustration:—

"A, in whose possession is found articles stolen on divers occasions from one and the same person, or stolen from different persons, would come under this section.

"If the charge be laid and proved that A received stolen property, and had also been condemned on previous occasions for a similar offence, he would be guilty of habitually receiving."

THE COUNCIL DIVIDED.

Ayes.	*Noes.*
The Hon. W. W. Mitchell,	The Surveyor-General,
The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan,	The Government Agent, Central Province,
The Hon. J. VanLangenberg.	The Government Agent, Western Province,
	The Treasurer,
	The Auditor-General,
	The Queen's Advocate,
	The Colonial Secretary,
	The Officer Commanding Troops,
	His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor.

Ayes, 3; Noes, 9; Majority 6.—Motion lost; unamended clause carried.

The Chairman reported progress, and the further consideration of the Bill in Committee was postponed.

8. CRIMINAL PROCEDURE BILL.—The Council in Committee resumed consideration of this Bill.

Clause 79, line 1, after "believe," the Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan moved to insert the words "upon information duly verified by affidavit."

THE COUNCIL DIVIDED.

Aye.	*Noes.*
The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan.	The Hon. W. W. Mitchell,
	The Hon. J. VanLangenberg,
	The Surveyor-General,
	The Government Agent, Central Province,
	The Government Agent, Western Province,
	The Treasurer,
	The Auditor-General,
	The Queen's Advocate,
	The Colonial Secretary,
	The Officer Commanding Troops,
	His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor.

Aye, 1; Noes, 11; Majority, 10.—Motion lost; unamended clause carried.

The Chairman reported progress, and the further consideration of the Bill in Committee was postponed.

On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, the Council at its rising adjourned till Thursday, the 23rd August, at 2 o'clock P.M.

Thursday, 23rd August, 1883.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor took the chair.
2. Proceedings of the last meeting read.
3. CRIMINAL PROCEDURE BILL.—The Council in Committee resumed consideration of this Bill. The Queen's Advocate gave notice that at the next meeting of Council he would propose the following amendment to clause 50 :—

   "50. When a summons issued by a court is served, an affidavit purporting to be made before an officer duly authorized to administer an oath or affirmation to the truth of such affidavit, or, in the case mentioned in section 48, the endorsement therein mentioned, that such summons has been served, shall be admissible in evidence, and the statements therein made shall be deemed to be correct unless and until the contrary is proved."

   The Chairman reported progress, and the further consideration of the Bill in Committee was deferred for next meeting of Council.

   On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, the Council at its rising adjourned till Saturday, the 25th instant, at 2 o'clock P.M.

Saturday, 25th August, 1883.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor took the chair.
2. Proceedings of the last meeting read.
3. CRIMINAL PROCEDURE BILL.—The Council in Committee resumed consideration of this Bill.

   Clause 237, line 10, before "simple," the Government Agent, Western Province, moved to insert the words "rigorous or."

THE COUNCIL DIVIDED.

Ayes.	*Noes.*
The Government Agent, Central Province,	The Hon. W. W. Mitchell,
The Government Agent, Western Province,	The Hon. J. VanLangenberg,
The Treasurer,	The Surveyor-General,
The Auditor-General,	The Queen's Advocate,
The Officer Commanding Troops.	The Colonial Secretary,
	His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor.

Ayes, 5; Noes, 6; Majority, 1.—Motion lost; clause carried.

On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, the framing of Schedule I. to the Bill was entrusted to a Sub-Committee consisting of the Colonial Secretary, the Queen's Advocate, the Government Agent, Western Province, Hon. J. VanLangenberg, Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan, and Hon. W. W. Mitchell.

The Chairman reported progress, and the further consideration of the Bill in Committee was postponed for next meeting.

On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, the Council at its rising adjourned till Wednesday, the 5th September, at 2 o'clock P.M.

Wednesday, 5th September, 1883.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor took the chair.
2. Proceedings of the last meeting read.
3. CRIMINAL PROCEDURE BILL.—The Council in Committee resumed consideration of this Bill.

Clause 315.

On the motion of the Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan to omit all the words after "consideration" in line 2,

THE COUNCIL DIVIDED.

Ayes.	*Noes.*
The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan,	The Colonial Secretary.
The Hon. J. VanLangenberg,	
The Surveyor-General,	
The Government Agent, Central Province,	
The Government Agent, Western Province,	
The Treasurer,	
The Auditor-General,	
The Queen's Advocate,	
The Officer Commanding Troops,	
His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor.	

Ayes, 10; No, 1; Majority 9.—Motion carried.

On the motion of the Government Agent, Western Province, to omit the first two lines of the clause,

THE COUNCIL DIVIDED.

Ayes.	*Noes.*
The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan,	The Hon. J. VanLangenberg,
The Surveyor-General,	The Government Agent, Central Province,
The Government Agent, Western Province.	The Treasurer,
	The Auditor-General,
	The Queen's Advocate,
	The Officer Commanding Troops,
	The Colonial Secretary,
	His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor.

Ayes, 3; Noes, 8; Majority, 5.—Motion lost.

The following words were then added to the clause on the motion of the Queen's Advocate:—

"After such further consideration the jury may deliver their verdict although they are not unanimous."

Clause as amended carried.

The Chairman reported progress, and the further consideration of the Bill in Committee was postponed for next meeting.

On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, the Council at its rising adjourned till September 6th, at 2 o'clock P.M.

Thursday, 6th September, 1883.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor took the chair.
2. Proceedings of the last meeting read.
3. PAPER.—The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the following Paper:—

   Sessional Paper No. XLII. of 1882.—The Postal Service Contract: Correspondence on the subject of a proposal to obtain contributions from the Colonies towards the cost of the Postal Service.
4. CRIMINAL PROCEDURE BILL.—The Council in Committee resumed consideration of this Bill. The Chairman reported progress, and the further consideration in Committee of the Bill was postponed.

   On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, the Council at its rising adjourned till Saturday, the 8th September, at 2 o'clock P.M.

Saturday, 8th September, 1883.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor took the chair.
2. Proceedings of the last meeting read.
3. PAPER.—The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the following Paper:—

   Return to an Order of Council, dated 1st August, 1883: "That a return be furnished showing—

   I.—A list of churches towards the erection of which Government has contributed;

   II.—A list of churches where Government has exercised patronage, stating from what fund or funds the clergyman's stipend was paid;

   III.—A statement showing for each church in the Island in detail in whom patronage vests, and when Government patronage ceases."
4. CRIMINAL PROCEDURE BILL.—The Council in Committee resumed consideration of this Bill.

   Clause 409. The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan moved to omit the concluding words, "and shall bear a stamp of Rs. 5."

THE COUNCIL DIVIDED.

Ayes.	*Noes.*
The Hon. W. W. Mitchell,	The Surveyor-General,
The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan,	The Government Agent, Central Province,
The Hon. J. VanLangenberg,	The Treasurer,
The Government Agent, Western Province,	The Auditor-General,
His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor.	The Queen's Advocate,
	The Colonial Secretary,
	The Officer Commanding Troops.

Ayes, 5; Noes, 7; Majority, 2.—Motion lost.

The Government Agent, Western Province, then moved the following amendment to the clause:—"Provided that in case the appellant be successful in his appeal the amount of the stamp fee shall be returned to the appellant, and provided also that the court from whose decree the appeal is made shall, if it see fit, allow the payment of stamp fee to stand over until judgment in appeal, when it shall be recovered or not according to the result of the appeal, and provided also that the Supreme Court shall have power to remit all or any stamp fees."

Clause as amended carried, subject to reference to the Queen's Advocate, to amend, if necessary, the wording of the amendment.

Clause 406. The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan moved the omission of this clause.

THE COUNCIL DIVIDED.

Ayes.	*Noes.*
The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan,	The Surveyor-General,
The Hon. J. VanLangenberg,	The Government Agent, Central Province,
The Government Agent, Western Province,	The Treasurer,
His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor.	The Auditor-General,
	The Queen's Advocate,
	The Colonial Secretary,
	The Officer Commanding Troops.

Ayes, 4; Noes, 7; Majority, 3.—Motion lost.

The Government Agent, Central Province, moved to add the words "or unless with the leave of the court." Clause as amended carried.

Clause 405, line 2. The Hon. J. VanLangenberg moved to omit the words "or police" before "court."

THE COUNCIL DIVIDED.

Ayes.	*Noes.*
The Hon. J. VanLangenberg,	The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan,
The Government Agent, Western Province,	The Surveyor-General,
The Treasurer,	The Government Agent, Central Province,
The Auditor-General.	The Queen's Advocate,
	The Colonial Secretary,
	The Officer Commanding Troops,
	His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor.

Ayes, 4; Noes, 7; Majority, 3.—Motion lost.

The Chairman reported progress, and the further consideration of the Bill in Committee was postponed.

On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, the Council at its rising adjourned till Monday, the 10th September, at 2 o'clock P.M.

Monday, 10th September, 1883.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor took the chair.
2. Proceedings of the last meeting read.
3. CRIMINAL PROCEDURE BILL.—The Council in Committee resumed consideration of this Bill. The Chairman having reported progress, the further consideration of the Bill in Committee was postponed for a future meeting.

On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, the Council at its rising adjourned till Thursday, the 13th September, at 2 o'clock P.M.

Thursday, 13th September, 1883.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor took the chair.
2. Proceedings of the last meeting read.
3. PLANS AND VOTES FOR PUBLIC WORKS.—The Hon. W. W. Mitchell, pursuant to notice, asked if, when a vote of the Legislative Council had been taken for any public work on a particular set of plans, it was possible for these plans and the vote to be separated in passing through the Executive Departments, and for the money to be spent on a different set of plans entirely—as appeared to have been done in the case of the new Lunatic Asylum—without the Audit Office discovering and checking the illegality, if it was an illegality.

The Colonial Secretary replied.

4. Code of Civil Procedure.—The Hon. W. W. Mitchell, pursuant to notice, asked if it was the intention of the Government during (the present, or) next session of Council to proceed with the Code of Civil Procedure, twice already introduced into the Council, in order to bring it into operation at the same time as the Criminal Code, and more particularly in view of the great necessity which had arisen for removing the uncertainty as to the law on mortgages of real property.

The Colonial Secretary replied.

5. Land Sales of the Kégalla District.—The Hon. W. W. Mitchell, pursuant to notice, asked if Government would state the reason for the withdrawal from public sale of the lots of land recently advertized for sale in the Kégalla district; also, if Government would indicate what policy it intends to pursue with regard to land sales generally, and more especially with respect to those adopted for the growth of new products, and moved for papers.

Seconded by the Hon. J. VanLangenberg.

The Colonial Secretary replied, referring to Sessional Paper XLIII. of 1882 (Report on the Conservation and Administration of the Crown Forests in Ceylon), for papers on the subject.

6. Lunatic Asylum.—The Hon. W. W. Mitchell, pursuant to notice, moved that the despatches received in 1877, 1878, and 1879 from the Secretary of State (with enclosures) on Sir Wm. Gregory's proposed plan of Lunatic Asylum, after the model adopted in India, be published, so as to make the history of this question complete, and to put the Council in possession of all the facts of the case.

Seconded by the Hon. J. VanLangenberg.

The Colonial Secretary replied and undertook to apply to the Secretary of State for permission to lay papers on the table.

7. Criminal Procedure Bill.—The Council in Committee resumed consideration of this Bill.

Clause 362. The Government Agent, Central Province, moved the deletion of the five words at the beginning of the clause, and the insertion in lieu thereof of the words "In every enquiry under Chapter XVI."

The Council Divided.

Ayes.	*Noes.*
The Hon. W. W. Mitchell,	The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan,
The Government Agent, Central Province,	The Hon. J. VanLangenberg,
The Government Agent, Western Province,	The Queen's Advocate.
The Treasurer,	
The Auditor-General,	
The Colonial Secretary,	
The Officer Commanding Troops,	
His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor.	

Ayes, 8; Noes, 3; Majority 5.—Motion carried.

The Chairman reported progress, and the further consideration of the Bill in Committee was postponed for a future date.

On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, the Council at its rising adjourned till Wednesday, the 26th September, at 2 o'clock P.M.

Wednesday, 26th September, 1883.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor took the chair.

2. Papers.—The Colonial Secretary laid on the table a letter dated the 24th September, 1883, from the Secretary to the Planters' Association, on the subject of the Codes now being considered in Committee of the Council, and made a statement relative thereto.

3. Widows' Pension Fund.—His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor made the following statement:—

I desire to consult the Legislative Council in reference to a subject in which they have taken much interest,—the establishment of a Widows' and Orphans' Fund for the Public Service of this Colony.

Various circumstances to which it is not now necessary to allude have delayed the preparation of a scheme, amended as was desired, when the subject was mentioned to you in 1877. I am at length, however, in a position to lay upon the table a despatch from the Secretary of State giving cover to a complete scheme, as settled by the Actuary to whom the question was referred, upon the lines then indicated. The requisite tables for the calculation of the pensions are attached to the Actuary's report.

I have considered these papers with the assistance of the Executive Council, and it appears, as pointed out by the Earl of Derby, that there is one question, and that an important one, upon which a decision must be arrived at before any further action can be taken in the matter, viz., in what manner the cost of the scheme should be met.

It has been understood, I believe, from the outset that the Legislature would not object to providing from general revenue for the clerical labour necessary for administering the Pension Fund, the supervision being done gratuitously by a body of Trustees: the cost of this clerical assistance should not exceed Rs. 1,500 per annum. A more serious point, however, remains for consideration in the fact that the calculations of the Actuary have been based upon the supposition that six per cent. interest would be allowed by Government upon the capital of the fund.

In the original project drafted by myself nine years ago, I had calculated upon Government allowing interest at five per cent. upon the capital of the fund, this being the rate at which a local loan had a short time previously been raised under Ordinance No. 2 of 1872, and being moreover the rate quoted at the time for the Breakwater loan issuable under Ordinance No. 5 of 1874, though, as a matter of fact, the first instalment of that loan was issued at four and-a-half per cent. only.

The scheme drawn up by the Actuary, Mr. Pattison, in 1877, was accordingly based upon a rate of interest of five per cent. on invested capital; but it will be seen by a reference to Sessional Paper 20 of 1877, that one objection taken by the Queen's Advocate (Mr. Cayley) to Mr. Pattison's scheme, was that Government might well follow the example of the Colony of British Guiana, and allow six instead of five per cent. upon the capital of the fund. This explains the deviation in this respect, in the scheme now laid before you by Mr. Hardy, from that originally submitted by Mr. Pattison.

I am aware, however, that Her Majesty's Government would not assent to the investment of the capital of the proposed fund otherwise than in Government securities, the most advantageous being those of the Government of India, from which a rate of interest of four per cent. can usually be secured. The questions, therefore, which I wish to submit for a decision of the Legislative Council are:

(1st) Shall Mr. Hardy's scheme be sent back for a revision of the tables upon the basis of the capital of the fund producing four instead of six per cent. interest? or

(2nd) Will the Council undertake to allow six per cent. interest on the capital for a limited term of ten years? The position of the fund would necessarily come under revision at the end of ten years, and the question of interest upon capital might conveniently be reconsidered upon that occasion.

For the purpose of affording the Council some data to assist them in coming to a decision between the above alternatives, I have drawn up a table giving such an approximate estimate of the position of the fund during the first ten years of its existence as will afford some idea of the annual cost to the Colony of allowing six per cent. upon the capital of the fund. That cost is estimated to commence at Rs. 415 in the first year, rising gradually to Rs. 7,200 in the tenth year. I have assumed that at the outset one-third, and at the end of ten years one-half, of the salaries of Government servants would be contributing to the fund; should the proportion prove larger, the contribution by general revenue would be larger in that proportion; if smaller, smaller.

For example, in the event of one-half instead of one-third of the salaries contributing to the fund at the outset, the loss to general revenue would have to be increased by one-sixth of the amount shown in the last column of the table.

In inviting an early decision of the Council upon the points now submitted to you, it may perhaps be of interest that I should mention that the principles upon which Mr. Hardy's scheme is based harmonize with those of my own project drawn up in 1874 in all practical respects, except, as above mentioned, in the matter of interest upon capital.

YEAR.	Contributions by Subscribers.	Interest on Capital at 6 per cent.	Total Income of Fund.	Pensions payable therefrom.	Capital of Fund.	Interest thereon at 2 per cent.
1st ...	44 000	1·170*	45·170	5·000	40·170	·402*
2nd ...	46·000	2·410†	48·410	10·000	78·580	1·570†
3rd ...	48·000	4·715	52·715	15·000	116·295	2 324
4th ...	50 000	6·977	56·977	20·000	153·272	3 065
5th ...	52·000	9·196	61·196	25 000	189·468	3·788
6th ...	54·000	11·368	65·368	30·000	224·836	4·496
7th ...	56·000	13·489	69·489	35·000	259·325	5·186
8th ...	58·000	15 559	73·559	40·000	292·884	5 857
9th ...	60·000	17·572	77·572	45·000	325·456	6·509
10th ...	62·000	19 527	81·527	50·000	356·983	7·129

* For half a year. † For the whole year henceforward.

It is assumed that, as originally intended, Government will bear the cost of administering the fund—say Rs. 1,500 a year for two clerks—and that the capital will be invested at par in Indian Government four per cent. securities. The above calculations do not attempt actuarial accuracy, but are an approximate estimate of the probable position of the fund from year to year.

J. DOUGLAS.

Ceylon,
No. 247.

Downing-street,
24th July, 1883.

SIR,—WITH reference to my predecessor's despatch No. 310, of the 8th September, 1882, and to previous correspondence on the subject of the proposed Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund for Ceylon, I have the honour to transmit to you twenty-two copies of the scheme prepared by

Mr. Pattison and Mr. Hardy, as finally revised and completed, of which Mr. Hardy has marked two copies with his initials.

2. Lord Kimberley's despatch above referred to will have explained to you the cause of the very regrettable delay which had arisen in the preparation of Mr. Hardy's scheme up to that date: I am still awaiting that gentleman's explanations of the further delay which has since occurred; but you will observe from the correspondence, of which copies are enclosed, that every effort was made to obtain the papers from Mr. Hardy at an earlier date.

3. I have now to authorize you to submit this scheme, which has been prepared with the greatest care, to your Legislative Council with a view to legislation on the basis there laid down, and in doing so I need not point out to you that one of the most important questions for the consideration of your Government will be to determine in what manner the cost of the scheme should be met.

I have, &c.,
DERBY.

4. Criminal Procedure Bill.—The Council in Committee resumed consideration of the Bill.

Clause 9.—The Queen's Advocate moved the following amendment to be added to the end of the clause:—

"9. Nor in respect of any offence which any municipal council has jurisdiction to deal with as being an offence under any bye-law duly enacted by such municipal council and approved of by the Governor in Executive Council, whether any such bye-law be embodied in any Ordinance or not, provided that no municipal council shall have jurisdiction to deal with any offence other than an offence coming under any bye-law duly enacted as aforesaid."

Resolved that the further consideration of this clause should be postponed for 14 days, and that the several Municipal Councils should be asked for a return of cases which came before the Bench of Magistrates from 1st July, 1881, to 1st July, 1883, distinguishing cases for breach of the Municipal bye-laws and breaches of the Municipal Councils' Ordinance from all other cases.

Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan moved the following addition to clause 9:—

"The Governor and the officers enumerated in the schedule hereto annexed shall be *ex officio* justices of the peace for the Island. It shall further be lawful for the Governor from time to time to appoint, by notice in the *Government Gazette* such persons as shall be named therein to act as justices of the peace for the Island or within such district or portions thereof as to the Governor shall seem expedient, and every such justice of the peace shall thereupon have all the powers and authority by this Code vested in police courts, save and except the power and authority to take proceedings with regard to, or to hear, try, or determine any offence which by this Code or by any law of this colony is summarily triable before a police court.

The Council Divided.

Ayes.	*Noes.*
The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan,	The Government Agent, Central Province,
The Hon. J. VanLangenberg,	The Treasurer,
The Surveyor-General,	The Auditor-General,
The Government Agent, Western Province.	The Queen's Advocate,
	The Colonial Secretary,
	The Officer Commanding the Troops,
	His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor.

Ayes, 4; Noes, 7; Majority, 3.—Motion lost.

The Chairman reported progress, and the further consideration of the Bill in Committee was postponed for next meeting of Council.

Papers.—The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the following Papers:—

Blue Book for 1882.

Sessional Paper XLIII. of 1881.—The Máldive Islands: "An account of the Physical Features, Climate, History, Inhabitants, Productions, and Trade."

On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, the Council at its rising adjourned till Wednesday, the 10th October, at 2 o'clock P.M.

Wednesday, 10th October, 1883.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor took the chair.
2. Proceedings of the last meeting read.
3. Bill amending the Law relating to Municipal Councils in this Island.—On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Queen's Advocate, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to amend the Law relating to Municipal Councils in this Island," was read a first time, and the second reading fixed for the next meeting of Council.

4. CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CODE.—The Council in Committee resumed consideration of this Bill. The Colonial Secretary laid upon the table the replies of the several Municipal Councils to a letter conveying to them the first resolution on clause 9 of this Bill, arrived at on the 26th September. The Colonial Secretary brought up the report—dated 8th October, 1883—of the Sub-Committee entrusted with the framing of Schedule I. of the Bill, which was read by the Clerk of the Council. The Bill was then considered in Committee, and on the Chairman reporting progress, the further consideration of the Bill in Committee was postponed for next meeting.

5. PENAL CODE.—The Council in Committee resumed consideration of this Bill. The Chairman reported progress, and the further consideration in Committee of the Bill was postponed for next meeting of Council.

6. PAPERS.—The Colonial Secretary laid on the table the Revised Code for Aided Schools.

On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, the Council at its rising adjourned till Wednesday, the 17th October, at 2 o'clock P.M.

Wednesday, 17th October, 1883.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor took the chair.

2. Proceedings of the last meeting read.

3. GILCHRIST SCHOLARSHIP.—The Colonial Secretary laid on the table a Despatch, No. 288 of the 28th August last, from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, reporting the decision of the Gilchrist Trustees to admit candidates from Ceylon to compete for Gilchrist Scholarship, and announced the intention of the Government to grant passage allowance to any Ceylon candidate who might obtain the Scholarship.

4. WIDOWS AND ORPHANS PENSION FUND SCHEME.—The Hon. J. VanLangenberg, pursuant to notice, moved the following resolution :—"Referring to His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor's Minute on the Pension Fund scheme, this Council approve of six per cent. being allowed as interest on the capital for the term of 10 years, subject to reconsideration of the rate of interest at the end of that term."

Seconded by the Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan.—Carried.

5. BILL AMENDING THE LAW RELATING TO MUNICIPAL COUNCILS IN THIS ISLAND.—The Colonial Secretary moved, and the Queen's Advocate seconded, the second reading of this Bill. The Hon. J. VanLangenberg moved as an amendment that the Bill be read a second time six months hence.

Seconded by the Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan.

THE COUNCIL DIVIDED ON THE AMENDMENT.

Ayes.	*Noes.*
The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan,	The Hon. J. L. Shand,
The Hon. J. VanLangenberg.	The Surveyor-General,
	The Government Agent, Central Province,
	The Government Agent, Western Province,
	The Treasurer,
	The Auditor-General,
	The Queen's Advocate,
	The Colonial Secretary,
	The Officer Commanding Troops,
	His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor.

Ayes, 2 ; Noes, 10 ; Majority, 8 ; Amendment lost.

Bill read a second time. On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Queen's Advocate, the Council went into Committee on the Bill. The Colonial Secretary having reported the Bill as amended, the report was adopted, and the Bill ordered to be referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, the third reading being fixed for next meeting of Council.

6. PENAL CODE.—The Council in Committee resumed consideration of this Bill. The Queen's Advocate having reported the Bill as amended, the report was adopted, and the Bill ordered to be referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, the third reading being fixed for the next meeting of Council.

7. CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CODE.—The Council in Committee resumed consideration of this Bill. *Clause* 9.—The Queen's Advocate moved the insertion of the following proviso:—"And provided that notwithstanding the repeal by this Code of section 32 of the Municipal Councils Ordinance, 1865, which gave Municipal Councillors jurisdiction to form a Bench of Magistrates, any two or more Municipal Councillors shall continue as heretofore to form a Bench of Magistrates to sit in open court for the trial of certain offences committed within the Municipality, and shall while so sitting constitute and sit as a Police

Court to hear, try and determine any offence committed within the Municipality coming under any bye-law duly enacted by a Municipal Council, and approved by the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, or any offence coming under any of the following Ordinances, viz., Ordinances Nos. 4 of 1841, 14 of 1859, 10 of 1861, 7 of 1862, 15 of 1862, 9 of 1863, 13 of 1864, 14 of 1865, 16 of 1865, 17 of 1865, 20 of 1865, 8 of 1866, 14 of 1867, 6 of 1868, 7 of 1873, 17 of 1873, 8 of 1876, 4 of 1878, and 8 of 1878. Provided that the provisions of sections 33 and 34 of the said Municipal Councils Ordinance, 1865, shall apply to Municipal Councillors sitting as a Bench of Magistrates under this proviso."

THE COUNCIL DIVIDED.

Ayes.	*No.*
The Hon. J. L. Shand,	The Hon. J. VanLangenberg.
The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan,	
The Government Agent, Central Province,	
The Government Agent, Western Province,	
The Treasurer,	
The Auditor-General,	
The Queen's Advocate,	
The Colonial Secretary,	
The Officer Commanding Troops,	
His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor.	

Ayes, 10; No, 1; Majority 9; Carried.

The Queen's Advocate having reported the Bill as amended, the report was adopted, and the Bill ordered to be referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, the third reading being fixed for next meeting of Council.

8. LAW OFFICERS' DESIGNATION BILL.—The Council in Committee resumed consideration of this Bill. The Queen's Advocate having reported the Bill as amended, the report was adopted, and the Bill was ordered to be referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, the third reading being fixed for next meeting of Council.

On the motion of the Colonial Secretary, the Council at its rising adjourned till Wednesday, the 24th October.

Wednesday, 24th October, 1883.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor took the chair.
2. Proceedings of the last meeting read.
3. MUNICIPAL COUNCILS BILL.—The report of the Law Officers of the Crown, dated 22nd October, stating that there was in their opinion no legal impediment to the execution by the Colonial Tribunals of a law in terms of the Bill having been read, the Bill was, on the motion of the Colonial Secretary, seconded by the Queen's Advocate, read a third time and passed.
4. LAW OFFICERS BILL.—The report of the Law Officers of the Crown, dated 22nd October, stating that there was in their opinion no legal impediment to the execution by the Colonial Tribunals of a law in terms of the Bill having been read, the Bill was, on the motion of the Queen's Advocate, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, read a third time and passed.
5. PENAL CODE.—On the motion of the Queen's Advocate, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, the Bill was re-committed. After amendments, the Queen's Advocate having reported the Bill as amended, and the report of the Law Officers of the Crown, dated 22nd October, stating that there was in their opinion no legal impediment to the execution by the Colonial Tribunals of a law in terms of the Bill having been read, the Bill was, on the motion of the Queen's Advocate, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, read a third time and passed.
6. CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CODE.—On the motion of the Queen's Advocate, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, the Bill was re-committed. The Queen's Advocate having reported the Bill as amended, and the report of the Law Officers of the Crown, dated the 23rd October, stating that there was in their opinion no legal impediment to the execution by the Colonial Tribunals of a law in terms of the Bill having been read, the Bill was, on the motion of the Queen's Advocate, seconded by the Colonial Secretary, read a third time and passed.
7. ASSENT TO BILLS.—The Colonial Secretary announced that His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor had given his assent to the following Ordinances:—

   No. 1 of 1883, intituled "An Ordinance relating to the Law Officers of the Crown and to Deputies to the Queen's Advocate."

   No. 2 of 1883, intituled "An Ordinance to provide a General Penal Code for this Colony."

No. 3 of 1883, intituled "An Ordinance for regulating the procedure of the Courts of Criminal Judicature."

No. 4 of 1883, intituled "An Ordinance to amend the Law relating to Municipal Councils in this Island."

8. Closing of Session.—His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor closed the Extraordinary Session with the following Address :—

Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,

I cannot close this Extraordinary Session of the Legislature without expressing to the Honourable Members my thanks for the patient attention which they have devoted to the important measures of legislative reform which have been under our consideration.

The Session has been unusually protracted as regards both the number and the duration of the sittings. I trust that your labours will meet with their befitting reward in having achieved the placing our criminal law upon a sure and satisfactory basis, thus putting an end to a most serious defect which has hitherto had to be acknowledged in the administration of the Colony.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Thursday, 6th December, 1883.

PRESENT:

HIS EXCELLENCY THE HON. A. H. GORDON, G.C.M.G., President.

The Hon. Sir JOHN DOUGLAS, K.C.M.G.,
The Hon. Major-General Sir J. C. McLEOD, K.C.B.,
The Hon. F. FLEMING,
The Hon. W. H. RAVENSCROFT,
The Hon. W. D. WRIGHT,
The Hon. F. R. SAUNDERS,
The Hon. J. F. DICKSON,
The Hon. J. STODDART,
The Hon. J. VANLANGENBERG,
The Hon. P. RÁMA-NÁTHAN,
The Hon. F. M. MACKWOOD,
The Hon. A. L. DE ALWIS,
The Hon. J. L. SHAND.

1. MEMBERS SWORN.—The necessary oaths and affirmation were taken by the Hon. Messrs. VanLangenberg, Ráma-Náthan, Mackwood, Alwis, and Shand.

2. OPENING OF THE SESSION.—His Excellency the Governor opened the Session with the following Address:—

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

IT is not in my power on this, the third day after that of my arrival in Ceylon, to lay before you such a picture of its condition as I could desire to furnish, or as you may properly expect to receive from the Governor of the Colony. You will, I am confident, forgive the inevitable baldness of an address delivered in such circumstances, and will, I trust, regard rather the fact that I have at the earliest moment had recourse to your advice and assistance than my inability to make to you such a statement as on any other occasion it would be only my duty to lay before you.

The financial position of the Colony, which occupied so large a share of the attention of the Council during the Session of 1882, must necessarily take the first place in our thoughts at the present time. The revenue for last year was estimated at Rs. 13,025,000, but it fell short of this amount by nearly Rs. 1,000,000, having only realized Rs. 12,161,570.

The revenue failed to reach the amount of the estimate in the following items:—

	Rs.
Customs Duties.	
Estimated Revenue ...	3,000,000
Actual Revenue ...	2,750,453
Land Sales.	
Estimated ...	350,000
Actual	271,000
Land Revenue.	
Estimated ...	875,000
Actual	822,000
Licenses.	
Estimated ...	1,570,000
Actual	1,547,672
Stamps.	
Estimated ...	900,000
Actual	797,417
Sale of Government Property.	
Estimated ...	1,150,000
Actual	994,468
Railway.	
Estimated ...	3,050,000
Actual	2,638,493

or, in other words, the decline extended to every branch of the revenue which is dependent on the agricultural industries of the Island.

Although every effort was made to curtail expenditure during the year, and nearly Rs. 500,000 less was spent than had been voted, it amounted to Rs. 12,494,664, as compared with the estimate of Rs. 12,956,953. The result of the year 1882, therefore, showed an excess of expenditure over revenue amounting to Rs. 333,094.

The revenue of the current year was estimated at Rs. 12,410,000, as against an expenditure estimated at Rs. 12,294,856, and the financial results of the first few months of the year were such as to cause grave anxiety, for it appeared that it would be impossible to avoid a repetition of the deficit which had marked the year 1882.

But it gives me great pleasure to inform you of the fact that, during the months which succeeded, not only has the decline of the revenue been apparently arrested, but the returns of their receipts compare favourably with those for a corresponding period of the year 1882, the revenue of the first ten months of the present year having amounted to Rs. 10,128,355, while that for the corresponding period of 1882 only amounted to Rs. 10,016,869. By the end of the year the revenue may be expected to realize Rs. 12,350,000, or within Rs. 60,000 of the estimate.

At the same time, the expenditure has been very carefully controlled, and it may be hoped that it will not considerably, if at all, exceed the revenue received.

The estimates for the coming year are in course of completion, and will be submitted to you at the next meeting of Council.

In view of the gloomy prospect afforded by the financial position of the Colony, a Committee was last year appointed to enquire into the public expenditure of the Colony, and to consider what savings could be effected in the annual charges.

The proposals contained in the report of that Committee have been carefully considered, and their value, I believe, fully appreciated by the Imperial Government.

I have directed a despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies to be laid before you, which contains the decision of Her Majesty's Government upon these proposals.

Some of the recommendations of the Committee have been disapproved; but of those sanctioned, some have already been effected, while others which can only be slowly proceeded with are in the course of being carried out.

The Committee may be congratulated on the success which has attended their temperate and well-considered effort to procure the reconsideration by Her Majesty's Government of the amount of the contribution to be paid by Ceylon for military purposes. The thanks of the Colony are due mainly to that Committee for the reduction of at least Rs. 240,000, which has been promised as a minimum by Her Majesty's Government.

But while grateful for this concession, I have little doubt that it would be unwise to relax our exertions to procure a yet larger diminution of a burden which, I have no hesitation in saying, appears to me out of all proportion, not only to the resources of the Colony, but also to the benefits derived from the expenditure incurred.

The reduction of Rs. 240,000 is expressly stated in Lord Derby's despatch to be only a minimum, which may be immediately effected, in view of pressing emergency; and there is, I am sure, no indisposition on the part of the Colonial Office to consider the whole question in a liberal and large-minded spirit. I shall not myself cease to urge much more extensive reductions, and in so doing, I make no doubt that I shall receive your co-operation, and that of the Colony in general.

The Secretary of State has, in the despatch to which I have referred, intimated an opinion that in order to place the finances of the Colony in a secure position it will be necessary to resort to some increased taxation.

It is not, however, my intention at once to propose to you to have recourse to this step, except in so far as regards a re-adjustment in the mode of collecting the duties on grain, and the re-imposition of a duty on the importation of kerosine oil, both of which measures have been recommended by the Committee.

At the same time, it is only my duty to tell you plainly, that unless the financial position of the Colony improves more rapidly and more materially than I can rationally venture to hope, it will be absolutely necessary during the course of next year to give careful consideration to the suggestions made by Her Majesty's Government with regard to a cautious increase in some articles of the tariff, and an extension of the stamp duties now payable.

Even if there were not obvious and grave objections to reductions so sweeping as to impair the efficiency of the Public Service, no measures of reduction alone could, I fear, supply funds sufficient to meet the additional burdens thrown on the revenue by the loans raised for the great works now in progress, or the charges which are inevitable if the progress of the Colony is not to be arrested, and perhaps irremediable mischief done, for the sake of avoiding a comparatively small immediate expenditure, in the hope,—I apprehend the vain hope—of escaping an ultimate resort to such measures as those suggested in Lord Derby's despatch.

Steps will be at once taken for carrying out the recommendation of the Committee to throw upon the rate payers in townships the cost of education other than that given in the vernacular tongue.

I fear that I cannot congratulate you on any material improvement in the prospects of the great staple of agricultural industry. The decline in the amount of coffee exported from the island continued during the earlier part of the present year, and the crop for the twelve months ending September 30th was the smallest ever known. During the last two months there has been improvement, and the export for 1883 will exceed that of 1882. On the other hand, there is no considerable diminution in the disease which has so cruelly affected the interests of the planting community.

The sight of a body of energetic and industrious men reduced from affluence to embarrassment by no error or fault of their own, but through the mysterious ravages of a microscopic fungus, must, under all circumstances, be a sad one; but when it is remembered what these men, or those whom they have succeeded and represent, have done,—that it is they who have given to this Colony the proud position which she occupies,—that it is they who have changed the silent forests into broad stretches of cultivation ringing with sounds of life and industry, I think it must be impossible even for the most insensible, or the most prejudiced, to escape being moved by genuine and ungrudging sympathy.

Legislation dictated by a desire to furnish direct assistance to industrial enterprises is always difficult, and too often actually mischievous; but it is impossible to repress a wish to discover some means not inconsistent with sound economical laws by which encouragement might be given either to the prosecution of new and promising industries, or to the efforts made to check the ravages of leaf disease. I should be grateful for the assistance which might be afforded me in such an enquiry by this Council and by the Public Bodies representing the interests more immediately affected, or by individuals who have made these interests their study and are competent to express a valuable opinion with respect to them.

While unable to announce any great improvement in the condition of the coffee industry, it is cheering to add that the progress shown in the production of tea and cocoa is in the highest degree satisfactory.

The exports of tea during the year 1882 more than doubled, and the exports of cacao more than trebled those of 1881. During the first eleven months of the present year the exports of 1882 have again been doubled, in the case of tea, and nearly quadrupled in that of cacao. Nor are these figures, encouraging as they are, by any means an indication of the great extension which has been given to cultivation of both these products.

The question of Railway Extension is, of course, intimately connected with that of the condition of the planting districts. On the one hand, it makes it more imperatively than ever requisite that every facility should be afforded for the transport of manures and supplies to the estates, and of produce from them: on the other hand, it cripples, if it does not destroy, the resources available for meeting the inevitably great outlay which must precede by a long time any remunerative results.

I heartily wish that I had arrived here long enough before meeting you to have had it in my power to give that patient investigation to this question which it requires, and to have found time for that careful weighing of conflicting considerations which will be requisite before I can form any decided opinion as to the course which, in the extremely difficult circumstances of the case, it will be most expedient to pursue.

It is utterly distasteful to myself, and it must be unsatisfactory to you, that I should speak in hesitating and ambiguous language thus balancing wishes against fears. But this is, in the circumstances, inevitable, and I can only say that when I have had sufficient time to make myself master of the question,—and it will be the first subject to which I shall direct my attention,—I shall take the earliest opportunity of communicating to you the opinion I have formed, and of submitting to your consideration and revision the measures which I may venture to ask you to adopt in order to carry that opinion,—should you also share it,—into practical effect.

I have directed a Minute by the Lieutenant-Governor descriptive of his recent visit to the North-Central Province to be laid before you.

It is a most cheering and satisfactory narrative, and the facts which it details not only justify the sagacious and beneficent policy of Sir W. Gregory towards that Province, but confirm, —were any confirmation needed,—the foresight and largeness of view of my eminent predecessors, Sir H. Ward and Sir H. Robinson.

With such results, there can be no question as to the policy of vigorously pushing on the works which have led to them, and I am about to ask you for a vote of Rs. 100,000 for the commencement of the restoration of the tank of Kalabala-wewa, a work long contemplated, and, indeed, determined on, but which has from time to time been postponed owing to adverse circumstances. It may be not uninteresting to you to hear that the resumption of this work has been most strongly pressed on me by my three immediate predecessors in office, and I have little doubt that the sum I now ask for with this object will be readily granted by you.

The subjects for legislation which will be brought under your consideration during the present Session will be necessarily few in number, and in the main confined to matters of routine and detail. Your attention has, however, been lately severely taxed in passing, during the recent Extraordinary Session, the Criminal Codes, the completion of which forms no inconsiderable landmark in our legislative history, and you will therefore, I trust, be disposed to view with indulgence my abstention from laying before you at the present time any legislative proposals of considerable importance. The principal measures which you will be asked to consider are an Ordinance for providing a Widows' Pension Fund for Public Servants, and one for giving better security for the recovery of their wages by cooly immigrants.

The time during which these wages, when unpaid, remain a first charge upon an estate, will, I think, be admitted to be of manifestly too short duration. The tendency of legislation in most civilized states is to give a priority of claim to the wages of labour, and I cannot but observe that the question is not really one between the labourer and his employer, but between the labourer and other creditors of the estate on which he works. If the employer be free from other debt, the wages of the labourer will ultimately be paid, whether they be constituted a first charge on the estate or not. If he is not so, the effect of their being made a first charge is simply to secure the payment to the labourer of sums which would otherwise be appropriated by other persons having claims against the estate.

This subject has already been taken up by the Lieutenant-Governor during his administration of the Government, and I cannot quit the topic without expressing my thanks to him for the disinterested and unselfish manner in which he has not hesitated to engage in a discussion which he might easily have evaded, and has thus saved me from commencing my term of office in a manner which might have produced a disagreeable impression, and been liable to serious misapprehension. I am sure that the ventilation of the question will have already shown to all dispassionate minds, that while the proposed extension of the time during which wages remain a first charge will give the cooly a security to which he is justly entitled, it will in no way injure, or indeed affect, the planter.

The accounts which have from time to time reached me as to the relations between the employer and the labourer in Ceylon have left on my mind a highly favourable impression, and I am confident that any failure, such as appears to have here and there occurred, to meet claims for wages justly due, has had its origin, not in any want of good feeling on the part of the planters, but in the pecuniary reverses by which their position has been rendered so painful and so trying. It is with gratitude, and sincere pleasure, that I recognize the promise made by the planters' Association to support any measure necessary to afford to coolies all reasonable facilities for the realization of their just claims, and relieve them from technicalities, delay, and expense, in their pursuit.

And now, Hon. Gentlemen, it only remains for me to express the satisfaction which I experience in meeting you in Council, and my hope that our deliberations may be ever marked by

cordiality, frankness, and forbearance, and that our united action may not be wholly unproductive of results useful to the Colony. I must also ask your pardon for the meagre and imperfect character of this hasty address, and your indulgence, while I am yet but a stranger in your midst, for any want of acquaintance on my part with facts which I ought to know, or forms which I ought to observe, that may be apparent to you in our early intercourse.

3. His Excellency the Governor having retired, the chair was taken by the Lieutenant-Governor.

4. ADDRESS IN REPLY TO HIS EXCELLENCY'S SPEECH.—The Auditor-General moved that the following gentlemen be appointed a Sub-Committee to prepare the Address in reply to His Excellency's Speech :—The Hon. the Treasurer, the Hon. the Government Agent, Western Province, the Hon. the Acting Surveyor-General, the Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan, the Hon. F. M. Mackwood, and the Hon. A. L. De Alwis.

Seconded by the Government Agent, Western Province.—Carried.

5. PAPERS.—The Lieutenant-Governor laid on the table the following papers :—

Sessional Paper X. of 1883.—Public Instruction Department: Revised Code for Aided Schools, together with a Notification of amendments prepared by the Director of Public Instruction.

Do. XI. „ —Jurisdiction of the Municipal Bench of Magistrates: Opinions of the Municipal Councils of Colombo, Galle, and Kandy on the proposal to restrict the jurisdiction of the Municipal Bench of Magistrates.

Do. XIV. „ —Minute by the Lieutenant-Governor on his recent visit to the North-Central Province.

On the motion of the Lieutenant-Governor, the Council at its rising adjourned to Wednesday, the 12th December, at 3 o'clock P.M.

Wednesday, 12th December, 1883.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. The Lieutenant-Governor took the chair.

2. ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE SPEECH OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.—The Treasurer brought up the reply of the Council to the Address of His Excellency the Governor, which was read by the Clerk of the Council. The Treasurer moved the adoption of the Draft Address with amendments.

Seconded by the Government Agent, Western Province.—Carried.

The Council then arose.

3. His Excellency the Governor having arrived, took the chair.

4. The Lieutenant-Governor read the Address of the Council in reply to the Governor's Speech:—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

1. THE Legislative Council offer to Your Excellency their congratulations on your assuming the office of President, and while recognizing the fact that Your Excellency has called them together at the earliest opportunity, they thank you for your interesting and encouraging address.

2. That the expenditure in 1882 exceeded the revenue was not altogether unexpected, for there had been a continued decrease of revenue for some years past, with the single exception of the year 1881, when there was a successful pearl fishery. It is, however, gratifying to learn that the receipts during the first ten months of the year 1883 compare favourably with those of the corresponding period of the preceding year, and that there is reason to hope that the decline of the revenue, has, at last, been arrested.

3. The despatch of the Secretary of State for the Colonies containing the decision of Her Majesty's Government upon the report of the Retrenchment Committee, when laid before the Council, will be perused with interest. The announcement that the military contribution is to be reduced at once by Rs. 240,000 as a measure of immediate relief and as an earnest of more liberal concessions to follow is received with satisfaction and thankfulness. The Council are glad to observe that Your Excellency shares the opinion expressed by every one of Her Majesty's Representatives who has governed the Island since the military contribution was settled—that the amount of the burden is out of all proportion to the resources of Ceylon and to the benefits derived from the expenditure ; and they assure Your Excellency of their hearty support in your efforts to obtain a more extensive reduction, and to settle the question in an equitable manner.

4. The Council are prepared to consider the proposal made by the Committee regarding the re-adjustment in the mode of collecting the duties on grain, and the re-imposition of a duty on the importation of kerosine oil, but they earnestly trust that the necessity will not arise for the increased taxation alluded to by Your Excellency.

5. The Council endorse most thoroughly Your Excellency's sympathetic remarks on the present condition of the coffee planters of Ceylon, and your testimony to the great benefits they have conferred on the Island generally. They are certain that the more Your Excellency learns

by personal enquiry and experience of the relations between the planters and their labourers, the more favourably impressed Your Excellency will be. The question of coolies' wages is, however, one of great moment, affecting as it does not only the labourer but also the employer and the absent capitalist, and the Council are ready to consider most carefully any well-conceived enactment for amending the law on this important subject.

6. The desirability of further railway extension has been very frequently urged by this Council, and they are glad to perceive that Your Excellency's wishes on this subject are in accordance with their views.

7. It is gratifying to the Council to learn from the Minute by the Lieutenant-Governor that the large expenditure in past years in the North-Central Province has had such satisfactory results, and they will give due consideration at the proper time to the proposed vote of Rs. 100,000 as an instalment for the restoration of the Kalabalawewa.

8. The Council will give careful attention to the several legislative measures which may be submitted to them, and they assure Your Excellency that they will cordially co-operate with you in all matters which have for their object the welfare and prosperity of the Island.

5. The Governor replied as follows :—

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

I THANK you for your address and for your renewed assurance of cordial co-operation in all measures for the public welfare.

6. PAPERS.—The Lieutenant-Governor laid on the table the following papers :—

Sessional Paper XII. of 1883.—Criminal Procedure Code: Report of a Sub-Committee of the Legislative Council appointed to report upon Schedule I. of the Bill intituled "An Ordinance for regulating the procedure of the Courts of Criminal Judicature."

Do. XIII. „ —Cash Balances of the Colony: Statements showing—

I.—The Cash Balances of the Colony as on the latest date at which they have been ascertained.

II.—The Total Surplus Revenue on 31st December, 1882, including the Balances of all Lapsed Votes to that date.

III.—The Amounts available for appropriation from Unclaimed Balances of the Loan Board on 31st December, 1882.

IV.—The Balance of the Railway Construction Fund on 31st December, 1882.

Do. XV. „ —Fish-curing in Ceylon: Replies of certain Government Agents and their Assistants to questions relating to a scheme for the reduction of the price of salt for fish-curing purposes.

Do. XVI. „ —The Floods of 1883: Copy of a letter (and plan) from the Resident Engineer, Colombo Waterworks, showing the highest levels reached by the floods in May, 1883, at various points between Colombo and Hanwella.

7. POSTAL SUBSIDY PAYABLE BY CEYLON ON ACCOUNT OF MAIL SERVICE PERFORMED UNDER CONTRACT WITH THE P. & O. COMPANY.—The Lieutenant-Governor, pursuant to notice, moved that this Colony accept the new postal arrangement proposed by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury in their letter to the Colonial Office, No. 7,817, of the 12th June, 1882, whereby the postal subsidy payable by Ceylon on account of the mail service performed under contract with the P. & O. Company will be approximately £1,400 a year, the Colony being thenceforward relieved of all further obligation on account of the additional loss of postage sustained by the Imperial Revenue since the Colony joined the Postal Union. Such arrangement to have effect, as proposed, from 12th February, 1880. (*Note.*—See Sessional Paper XLII. of 1882.)

Seconded by the Auditor-General.
Motion agreed to.

8. The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan gave notice that at the next meeting of Council he would

Ask what action the Government have taken, or propose to take, upon the Report of the Road Ordinance Commissioners, dated 11th May, 1882, and move for papers; and

Move that reports and other papers upon the Kalawewa tank, including a map of its drainage basin, be laid upon the table.

9. SUPPLY BILL, 1884.—On the motion of the Lieutenant-Governor, seconded by the Auditor-General, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance for making provision for the Contingent Services for the year 1884," was read a first time. The Standing Orders of the Council were suspended, and the Bill was read a second time, and the Council having gone into Committee thereon, the Bill was referred to a Sub-Committee consisting of the Colonial Secretary, the Auditor-General, the Government Agent, Western Province, the Hon. J. VanLangenberg, the Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan, and the Hon. J. L. Shand.

10. BILL AMENDING THE ORDINANCE No. 7 OF 1863 RELATING TO MASTERS' AND MATES' CERTIFICATES OF SERVICE.—On the motion of the Queen's Advocate, seconded by the Lieutenant-Governor, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to amend the Ordinance No. 7 of 1863 with respect to Masters' and Mates' Certificates of Service," was read a first time, and the second reading fixed for the next meeting of Council.

11. SUPPLEMENTARY SUPPLY BILL, 1883.—On the motion of the Lieutenant-Governor, seconded by the Auditor-General, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance for making provision for the Supplementary Contingent Charges for the year 1883," was read a first time. The Standing Orders of the Council were suspended, and the Bill was read a second time, and the Council having gone into Committee thereon, the Bill was ordered to be referred to a Sub-Committee consisting of the Colonial Secretary, the Treasurer, the Surveyor-General, the Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan, the Hon. F. M. Mackwood, and the Hon. A. L. De Alwis.

12. FINAL SUPPLEMENTARY SUPPLY BILL, 1882.—On the motion of the Auditor-General, seconded by the Lieutenant-Governor, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance for making final provision for the Supplementary Contingent Charges for the year 1882," was read a first time, and the second reading fixed for the next meeting of Council.

13. ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CUSTOMS ORDINANCE No. 17 OF 1869.—On the motion of the Queen's Advocate, seconded by the Lieutenant-Governor, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to amend the Ordinance No. 17 of 1869," was read a first time, and the second reading fixed for the next meeting of Council.

14. BILL AMENDING ORDINANCE No. 4 of 1863 AUTHORIZING DISTRICT COURTS TO INSTITUTE INQUIRIES INTO WRECKS.—On the motion of the Queen's Advocate, seconded by the Lieutenant-Governor, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 4 of 1863, intituled 'An Ordinance to authorize District Courts to institute inquiries into wrecks,'" was read a first time, and the second reading fixed for the next meeting of Council.

15. BILL AMENDING THE VOLUNTEER CORPS ORDINANCE No. 3 of 1861.—On the motion of the Queen's Advocate, seconded by the Lieutenant-Governor, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to further amend Ordinance No. 3 of 1861, intituled 'An Ordinance to authorize the formation of Volunteer Corps in this Colony and to provide for the good order and discipline thereof,'" was read a first time, and the second reading fixed for next meeting of Council.

16. BILL PROVIDING FOR THE NATURALIZATION OF GEORGE MAGGIOLINI.—On the motion of the Lieutenant-Governor, seconded by the Queen's Advocate, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to provide for the naturalization of George Maggiolini," was read a first time, and the second reading fixed for the next meeting of Council.

17. FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS BILL.—On the motion of the Lieutenant-Governor, seconded by the Queen's Advocate, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance for further continuing Ordinance No. 7 of 1881, intituled 'An Ordinance to make temporary provision for securing the status of French Mail Steamers within the ports of this Colony,'" was read a first time, and the second reading fixed for next meeting of Council.

On the motion of the Lieutenant-Governor, the Council at its rising adjourned till Wednesday, the 19th December, at 2 o'clock P.M.

Wednesday, 19th December, 1883.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Governor took the Chair.
2. Proceedings of the last meeting read.
3. MEMBER SWORN.—The Hon. R. W. D. Moir took the usual oaths as a member of the Legislative Council.
4. PAPERS.—The Lieutenant-Governor laid on the table the following papers :—

Administration Reports (1882),	Part I., Revenue.
Do.	Part II., Scientific.
Do.	Part III., Judicial.
Do.	Part IV., Miscellaneous: Royal Botanic Gardens, Public Instruction, Railways, Museum, Printing Office, and Registration.

5. LAND REGISTRATION ORDINANCE No. 4 of 1877.—The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan gave notice of the following motion for next meeting of Council :—

"In reference to the vote of Rs. 5,000 taken last year towards bringing into operation this year the Land Registration Ordinance No. 4 of 1877, to ask what progress has been made in the said work; and to move for papers."

6. COOLY WAGES BILL.—On the motion of the Lieutenant-Governor, seconded by the Queen's Advocate, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 11 of 1865, intituled 'An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the law relating to servants, labourers and journeymen artificers under contracts for hire and service'" was read a first time, and the Lieutenant-Governor gave notice that he would move the second reading in February next.

4839

7. REPORT OF THE ROAD ORDINANCE COMMISSION.—The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan, pursuant to notice, asked what action the Government had taken, or proposed to take, upon the Report of the Road Ordinance Commissioners, dated 11th May, 1882; and moved for papers.

Seconded by the Hon. A. L. De Alwis.

The Lieutenant-Governor replied. (No papers.)

8. KALAWEWA TANK.—The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan, pursuant to notice, moved that reports and other papers upon the Kalawęwa tank, including a map of its drainage basin, be laid upon the table.

Seconded by the Hon A. L. De Alwis.

The Lieutenant-Governor replied, and laid on the table the desired map.

9. COFFEE STEALING ORDINANCE. The Hon. J. L. Shand, pursuant to notice, moved that it is desirable that the Ordinance No. 4 of 1881, intituled "An Ordinance to check Coffee Stealing," be continued in force for a further period of one year.

Seconded by the Hon. F. M. Mackwood.

The Lieutenant-Governor replied.

Motion agreed to.

10. RETURNS OF REVENUE.—The Government Agent, Central Province, pursuant to notice, moved for a return classifying the collections on account of Arrears of Revenue under the heads of revenue to which they properly belong for each of the years 1863—1882.

Also, a Return showing the amount collected in each Province on account of Land Revenue and credited as arrears of revenue in each year 1863—1882.

Seconded by the Hon. J. L. Shand.

The Lieutenant-Governor replied, and laid the desired return on the table.

11. ROAD FROM RATNAPURA TO COLOMBO.—The Hon. J. L. Shand, pursuant to notice, drew the attention of Government to the present state of the road from Ratnapura to Colombo; and called for papers.

Seconded by the Hon. F. M. Mackwood.

The Lieutenant-Governor replied. (No papers.)

12. DESPATCH BY LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR RELATING TO COOLY WAGES.—The Hon. J. L. Shand, pursuant to notice, asked that the Lieutenant-Governor's Despatch to the Secretary of State for the Colonies upon the subject of giving better security for the recovery of wages by immigrant coolies be laid on the table.

Seconded by the Hon. F. M. Mackwood.

The Lieutenant-Governor replied.

Motion agreed to.

13. SUPPLEMENTARY SUPPLY BILL.—In Committee on the Bill, the Lieutenant-Governor brought up the report of the Sub-Committee, which was read by the Clerk of the Council. The Lieutenant-Governor having reported the Bill with amendments, the report was adopted, and the Bill ordered to be referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, the third reading being fixed for next meeting of Council.

14. MASTERS' AND MATES' CERTIFICATES OF SERVICE BILL.—On the motion of the Queen's Advocate, seconded by the Lieutenant-Governor, the Bill was read a second time, and the Council went into Committee thereon. The Queen's Advocate having reported the Bill with amendments, the report was adopted, and the Bill ordered to be referred to the Law Officers of the Crown.

15. FINAL SUPPLEMENTARY SUPPLY BILL.—On the motion of the Auditor-General, seconded by the Lieutenant-Governor, the Bill was read a second time, and the Council went into Committee thereon. The Auditor-General having reported the Bill unamended, the report was adopted, and the Bill ordered to be referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, the third reading being fixed for the next ordinary meeting of Council.

16. BILL AMENDING CUSTOMS ORDINANCE No. 17 of 1869.—On the motion of the Queen's Advocate, seconded by the Lieutenant-Governor, the Bill was read a second time, and the Council went into Committee thereon. The Queen's Advocate having reported the Bill as amended, the report was adopted, and the Bill ordered to be referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, the third reading being fixed for the next ordinary meeting of Council.

17. BILL TO AUTHORIZE DISTRICT COURTS TO INSTITUTE INQUIRIES INTO WRECKS.—On the motion of the Queen's Advocate, seconded by the Lieutenant-Governor, the Bill was read a second time, and the Council went into Committee thereon. The Queen's Advocate having reported the Bill as amended, the report was adopted, and the Bill ordered to be referred to the Law Officers of the Crown.

18. VOLUNTEER CORPS BILL.—On the motion of the Queen's Advocate, seconded by the Lieutenant-Governor, the Bill was read a second time, and the Council went into Committee thereon. The Queen's Advocate having reported the Bill as amended, the report was adopted, and the Bill ordered to be referred to the Law Officers of the Crown.

19. Bill providing for the Naturalization of George Maggiolini.—On the motion of the Lieutenant-Governor, seconded by the Auditor-General, the Bill was read a second time, and the Council went into Committee thereon. The Lieutenant-Governor having reported the Bill without amendments, the report was adopted, and the Bill ordered to be referred to the Law Officers of the Crown.

20. French Mail Steamers Bill.—The Lieutenant-Governor moved, and the Queen's Advocate seconded, the second reading of the Bill.

The Council Divided.

Ayes.	*Noes.*
The Government Agent, Central Province,	The Hon. J. L. Shand,
The Government Agent, Western Province,	The Hon. A. L. De Alwis,
The Treasurer,	The Hon. F. M. Mackwood,
The Auditor-General,	The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan,
The Queen's Advocate,	The Hon. J. VanLangenberg,
The Major-General,	The Surveyor-General.
The Lieutenant-Governor.	

Ayes, 7 ; Noes, 6 ; Majority 1.

Bill read a second time. On the motion of the Lieutenant-Governor, seconded by the Queen's Advocate, the Council went into Committee on the Bill. The Lieutenant-Governor having reported the Bill without amendments, the report was adopted, and the Bill ordered to be referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, the third reading being fixed for next meeting of Council.

21. Tolls Bill.—On the motion of the Lieutenant-Governor, seconded by the Queen's Advocate, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to establish further Tolls and to discontinue certain Tolls" was read a first time.

22. Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund Bill.—The Queen's Advocate obtained leave of Council to defer for next meeting of Council his motion for the first reading of the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to make provision for granting pensions to widows and children of deceased Public Officers of this Colony."

23. Grain Tax Amendment Ordinance.—On the motion of the Queen's Advocate, seconded by the Lieutenant-Governor, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 11 of 1878, intituled 'An Ordinance to make better provision for the due collection of the Tax, Duty or Share due to Government upon Grain grown in this Island'" was read a first time.

24. Wharf and Warehouse Amendment Ordinance.—On the motion of the Lieutenant-Governor, seconded by the Queen's Advocate, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to amend and continue in force Ordinance No. 10 of 1876, intituled 'An Ordinance to repeal the Wharf and Warehouse Ordinance, 1865, and to make further provision for the establishment in Colombo and regulation of a Company to perform the duties of Wharfingers and Warehousemen'" was read a first time.

25. Kandy Municipality Loan Bill.—On the motion of the Queen's Advocate, seconded by the Government Agent, Central Province, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to authorize a loan of Rs. 250,000 to the Municipality of Kandy for the purpose of paying off a loan advanced under the authority of Ordinance No. 13 of 1874 for the construction of Waterworks" was read a first time.

On the motion of the Lieutenant-Governor, the Council at its rising adjourned till Friday, the 21st December, at 2 o'clock P.M.

Friday, 21st December, 1883.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Governor took the chair.
2. Proceedings of the last meeting read.
3. Member Sworn.—The Hon. G. B. Leechman took the usual oath as a member of the Legislative Council.
4. Papers.—The Lieutenant-Governor laid on the table the following papers :—

   Despatch of Lieutenant-Governor Sir J. Douglas, K.C.M.G., No. 144 of 12th October, 1883, pointing out the insufficiency of the provisions of the existing law for ensuring the payment of wages due to Indian coolies working upon plantations in Ceylon, and Despatch from Secretary of State, dated 28th November, in reply thereto.

5. Land Registration Ordinance No. 4 of 1877.—The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan, pursuant to notice, asked, in reference to the vote of Rs. 5,000 taken last year towards bringing into operation this year the Land Registration Ordinance No. 4 of 1877, what progress had been made in the said work, and moved for papers.

Seconded by the Hon. A. L. De Alwis.

The Lieutenant-Governor replied. (No papers.)

6. SUPPLEMENTARY SUPPLY BILL, 1883.—The report of the Law Officers of the Crown, dated the 20th December, stating that there was in their opinion no legal impediment to the execution by the Colonial Tribunals of a law in terms of the Bill having been read, the Bill was, on the motion of the Lieutenant-Governor, seconded by the Queen's Advocate, read a third time and passed.

7. SUPPLY BILL, 1884.—The Lieutenant-Governor brought up the report of the Sub-Committee on the Bill, which was read by the Clerk of the Council, and the Council went into Committee thereon. The Lieutenant-Governor having reported the Bill as amended, the report was adopted, and the Bill ordered to be referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, the third reading being fixed for the next meeting of Council.

8. FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS BILL.—The report of the Law Officers of the Crown, dated the 20th December, stating that there was in their opinion no legal impediment to the execution by the Colonial Tribunals of a law in terms of the Bill having been read, the Bill was, on the motion of the Lieutenant-Governor, seconded by the Queen's Advocate, read a third time and passed.

9. WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' PENSION FUND BILL.—On the motion of the Queen's Advocate, seconded by the Lieutenant-Governor, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to make provision for granting pensions to widows and children of deceased Public Officers of this Colony," was read a first time.

10. COFFEE STEALING ORDINANCE.—On the motion of the Lieutenant-Governor, seconded by the Queen's Advocate, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to continue the Ordinance No. 2 of 1879, intituled 'An Ordinance to check Coffee Stealing,'" was read a first time. On the motion of the Hon. J. L. Shand, seconded by the Lieutenant-Governor, the Standing Orders of the Council were suspended, and the Bill was read a second time, and the Council went into Committee thereon. The Lieutenant-Governor having reported the Bill without amendments, the report was adopted, and the Bill ordered to be referred to the Law Officers of the Crown.

11. ASSENT TO BILLS.—The Lieutenant-Governor announced that His Excellency the Governor had given his assent to the following Bills :—

Ordinance No 5 of 1883, intituled "An Ordinance for making provision for the Supplementary Contingent Charges for the year 1883."

Ordinance No. 6 of 1883, intituled "An Ordinance for further continuing Ordinance No. 7 of 1881, intituled 'An Ordinance to make temporary provision for securing the status of French Mail Steamers within the ports of this Colony.'"

12. APPROACHING VISIT OF THE RIGHT HON. SIR W. H. GREGORY.—His Excellency the Governor intimated that the Right Hon. Sir W. H. Gregory, K.C.M.G., late Governor of the Colony, would visit the Island about a month hence.

On the motion of the Lieutenant-Governor, the Council at its rising adjourned till January 4th, 1884, at 2 o'clock P.M.

Friday, 4th January, 1884.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Governor took the chair.

2. Proceedings of the last meeting read.

3. PETITION.—The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan presented a petition from certain inhabitants of the Jaffna Peninsula complaining of certain matters of religious intolerance in grant-in-aid schools, and asking that Government schools may be established.

4. ADDRESS TO THE RIGHT HON. SIR W. H. GREGORY, K.C.M.G.—On the motion of the Hon. J. VanLangenberg, seconded by the Lieutenant-Governor, it was resolved that an Address be presented by the Council to the Right Hon. Sir W. H. Gregory, K.C M.G., on his landing in Ceylon, and that the Auditor-General, the Government Agent, Western Province, the Hon. J. VanLangenberg, the Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan, and the Hon. A. L. De Alwis be appointed a Committee for the purpose of drawing up the Address.

5. SUPPLY BILL, 1884.—On the motion of the Lieutenant-Governor, seconded by the Auditor-General, the Bill was recommitted. The Lieutenant-Governor having reported the Bill with amendments, the report was adopted, and the report of the Law Officers of the Crown, dated the 31st December, 1883, stating that there was in their opinion no legal impediment to the execution by the Local Tribunals of a law in terms of the Bill having been read, the Bill was, on the motion of the Lieutenant-Governor, seconded by the Auditor-General, read a third time and passed.

6. WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' PENSION FUND BILL.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Lieutenant-Governor, the Bill was read a second time, and the Council having gone into Committee thereon, the Bill was ordered to be referred to a Sub-Committee consisting of the Attorney-General, the Auditor-General, the Government Agent, Western Province, the Hon. J. VanLangenberg, the Hon. A. L. De Alwis, and the Hon. G. B. Leechman.

7. Coffee Stealing Ordinance.—The report of the Law Officers of the Crown, dated the 31st December, stating that there was in their opinion no legal impediment to the execution by the Colonial Tribunals of a law in terms of the Bill, having been read, the Bill was on the motion of the Lieutenant-Governor, seconded by the Auditor-General, read a third time and passed.

8. Bill relating to Merchant Shipping.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Lieutenant-Governor, the Bill was recommitted. The Attorney-General having reported the Bill amended, and the report of the Law Officers of the Crown, dated the 31st December, stating that there was in their opinion no legal impediment to the execution by the Colonial Tribunals of a law in terms of the Bill, having been read, the Bill was on the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Lieutenant-Governor, read a third time and passed.

9. Final Supplementary Supply Bill, 1882.—The report of the Law Officers of the Crown, dated the 31st December, 1883, stating that there was in their opinion no legal impediment to the execution by the Colonial Tribunals of a law in terms of the Bill, having been read, the Bill was, on the motion of the Auditor-General, seconded by the Lieutenant-Governor, read a third time and passed.

10. Bill amending Customs Ordinance, 1869.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Lieutenant-Governor, the Bill was recommitted. The Attorney-General having reported the Bill amended, and the report of the Law Officers of the Crown, dated the 31st December, stating that there was in their opinion no legal impediment to the execution by the Colonial Tribunals of a law in terms of the Bill, having been read, the Bill was, on the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Lieutenant-Governor, read a third time and passed.

11. Ordinance authorizing District Courts to institute Inquiries into Wrecks.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Lieutenant-Governor, the Bill was recommitted. The Attorney-General having reported the Bill amended, and the report of the Law Officers of the Crown, dated the 31st December, 1883, stating that there was in their opinion no legal impediment to the execution by the Colonial Tribunals of a law in terms of the Bill, having been read, the Bill was, on the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Lieutenant-Governor, read a third time and passed.

12. Bill amending the Volunteer Ordinance No. 3 of 1861.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Lieutenant-Governor, the Bill was recommitted. The Attorney-General having reported the Bill amended, and the report of the Law Officers of the Crown, dated the 31st December, 1883, stating that there was in their opinion no legal impediment to the execution by the Colonial Tribunals of a law in terms of the Bill, having been read, the Bill was, on the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Lieutenant-Governor, read a third time and passed.

13. Bill providing for the naturalization of George Maggiolini.—The report of the Law Officers of the Crown, dated 31st December, 1883, stating that there was in their opinion no legal impediment to the execution by the Colonial Tribunals of a law in terms of the Bill, having been read, the Bill was, on the motion of the Lieutenant-Governor, seconded by the Attorney-General, read a third time and passed.

14. Bill amending the Grain Tax Ordinance, No. 11 of 1878.—On the motion of the Lieutenant-Governor, seconded by the Attorney-General, the Bill was read a second time, and the Council went into Committee thereon. The Attorney-General having reported the Bill amended, the report was adopted, and the Bill ordered to be referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, the third reading being fixed for the next meeting of Council.

15. Bill amending Wharf and Warehouse Ordinance, No. 10 of 1876.—On the motion of the Lieutenant-Governor, seconded by the Auditor-General, the Bill was read a second time, and the Council having gone into Committee thereon, the Bill was ordered to be referred to a Sub-Committee consisting of the Auditor-General, the Treasurer, the Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan, and the Hon. A. L. De Alwis.

16.—Kandy Waterworks Loan.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Lieutenant-Governor, the Bill was read a second time, and the next meeting of the Council appointed for the consideration of the Bill in Committee.

17. Assent to Bill.—The Lieutenant-Governor announced that His Excellency the Governor had given his assent to the Ordinance No. 1 of 1884, intituled "An Ordinance for making provision for the Contingent Services for the year 1884."

On the motion of the Lieutenant-Governor, the Council at its rising adjourned till the 4th February, at 2 o'clock P.M.

Monday, 4th February, 1884.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Governor took the chair.
2. Oath.—The usual oath was taken by the Clerk to the Council.
3. Proceedings of the last meeting read.

4. Address to Sir W. H. Gregory. The Auditor-General, as Chairman, brought up the Address of the Sub-Committee of the Council to be presented to Sir W. H. Gregory on his arrival in the Colony, which was read by the Clerk to the Council.

On the arrival of Sir W. H. Gregory, His Excellency the Governor, as President of the Council, presented the Address.

5. MILITARY EXPENDITURE.—The Lieutenant-Governor brought up a Message from His Excellency the Governor to the Legislative Council on the reduction of the military expenditure of the Colony.

6. ASSENT TO BILLS.—The Lieutenant-Governor announced that His Excellency the Governor had given his assent to the following Ordinances :—

Ordinance No. 2 of 1884, intituled "An Ordinance to continue Ordinance No. 2 of 1879, intituled 'An Ordinance to check Coffee Stealing,' for a further term of one year."

Ordinance No. 3 of 1884, intituled "An Ordinance to amend the Ordinance No. 7 of 1863, intituled 'An Ordinance relating to Merchant Shipping.'"

Ordinance No. 4 of 1884, intituled "An Ordinance for making final provision for the Supplementary Contingent Charges for the year 1882."

Ordinance No. 5 of 1884, intituled "An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 17 of 1869," intituled 'An Ordinance for the general regulation of Customs in the Island of Ceylon.'"

Ordinance No. 6 of 1884, intituled "An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 4 of 1863, intituled 'An Ordinance to authorize District Courts to institute inquiries into Wrecks.'"

Ordinance No. 7 of 1884, intituled "An Ordinance to further amend the Ordinance No. 3 of 1861, intituled 'An Ordinance to authorize the formation of Volunteer Corps in this Colony, and to provide for the good order and discipline thereof.'"

Ordinance No. 8 of 1884, intituled "An Ordinance to provide for the naturalization of George Maggiolini."

7. PAPERS.—The Lieutenant-Governor laid on the table the following papers :—

Sessional Paper XX. of 1883.—Details of Arrears of Revenue.
Sessional Paper XXI. of 1883.—Despatches relating to the New Lunatic Asylum.
Sessional Paper XXIII. of 1883.—Financial Statements laid before the Legislative Council during the Session of 1883–84.

Report by H. P. Baumgartner, Esq., on Ceylon Exhibits at the International Fisheries Exhibition, 1883.

8. PETITION.—The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan presented a petition from certain European merchants of Colombo praying that the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to amend the Wharf and Warehouse Ordinance, 1865," may not be passed.

9. COMPLAINTS OF THEFTS OF ESTATE PRODUCE.—The Hon. F. M. Mackwood gave notice that at the next meeting of Council he would move for a return of the number of complaints of theft of estate produce in the Central Province during the year 1883, and the result of such complaints; also, for any papers bearing on this subject.

10. RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE ON THE PART OF CERTAIN MISSIONARY MANAGERS OF GRANT-IN-AID SCHOOLS.—The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan gave notice that at the next meeting of Council he would call attention to the memorial of the Hindu inhabitants of the Jaffna Peninsula complaining of religious intolerance on the part of certain missionary managers of grant-in-aid schools, and ask, in view of there being no Government schools in the Northern Province, what relief the Government intend to offer to the memorialists and others, who, though desirous of learning English, are yet unable to learn it except at the sacrifice of their religious convictions.

11. RAILWAY TO HATTON.—The Hon. J. L. Shand gave notice that at the next meeting of Council he would ask what arrangements Government propose to make as to the time of running trains, and the convenience of travellers, when the railway is open to Hatton.

12. PETITION.—The Hon. A. L. De Alwis presented a petition from certain inhabitants of the Negombo District praying for the restoration of a bridge at Seduwa.

13. MR. J. A. SWETTENHAM.—On the motion of the Hon. the Government Agent, Western Province, seconded by the Hon. J. VanLangenberg, the Standing Orders of the Council were suspended. The Hon. the Government Agent, Western Province, then moved, and the Hon. J. VanLangenberg seconded, that the Legislative Council record their sense of the valuable services rendered to them by Mr. J. A. Swettenham for a period of seven years, during which time he held the office of Clerk to the Council, and that a copy of the resolution be forwarded to Mr. Swettenham.

Carried unanimously.

14. RETURN OF GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS TO BE TRANSFERRED TO LOCAL BOARDS AND MUNICIPALITIES.—The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan, pursuant to notice, moved for a return showing (1) the Government schools which were intended to be transferred over to Local Boards and Municipalities, (2) the respective cost of such schools to the Government last year, (3) the grants-in-aid which such schools were likely to earn each year, and (4) the amount of saving which would be effected by carrying out the policy of Government.

Seconded by the Hon. G. B. Leechman.

The Lieutenant-Governor replied, and laid on the table the return asked for.

15. COOLY WAGES.—On the motion of the Lieutenant-Governor, seconded by the Auditor-General, the Bill was read a second time, and the Council having gone into Committee thereon, the Bill was ordered to be referred to a Sub-Committee consisting of the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, the Auditor-General, the Government Agent, Central Province, the Hon. J. VanLangenberg, the Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan, the Hon. J. L. Shand, and the Hon. G. B. Leechman.

16. BILL AMENDING GRAIN TAX ORDINANCE, 1878.—The report of the Law Officers of the Crown, dated 14th January, 1884, stating that there was in their opinion no legal impediment to the execution by the Colonial Tribunals of a law in terms of the Bill, having been read, the Bill was, on the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Lieutenant-Governor, read a third time and passed.

17. TOLLS BILL.—On the motion of the Lieutenant-Governor, seconded by the Attorney-General, the Bill was read a second time, and the Council went into Committee thereon. The Lieutenant-Governor having reported the Bill amended, the report was adopted, and the Bill ordered to be referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, the third reading being fixed for the next meeting of Council.

18. BILL AUTHORIZING GOVERNOR'S SIGNATURE TO CROWN GRANTS TO BE ATTACHED BY A STAMP.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Lieutenant-Governor, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to authorize the Governor's signature to Crown Grants to be attached by a stamp," was read a first time, and the second reading fixed for next meeting of Council.

19. BILL TO PROVIDE AGAINST THEFTS IN THE HARBOURS AND WHARVES.—On the motion of the Lieutenant-Governor, seconded by the Attorney-General, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to provide against petty thefts in the Harbours and Wharves of the ports of this Colony," was read a first time, and the second reading fixed for the next meeting of Council.

20. BILL AMENDING POLICE ORDINANCE, 1865.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Lieutenant-Governor, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 16 of 1865, intituled 'An Ordinance to provide for the establishment and regulation of a Police Force in this Island,'" was read a first time, and the second reading fixed for the next meeting of Council.

21. WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' PENSION FUND.—The Attorney-General, as Chairman, brought up the report of the Sub-Committee on the Bill, which was read by the Clerk of the Council. The Attorney-General reported progress, and the further consideration of the Bill in Committee was postponed till the next meeting of Council.

22. BILL IMPOSING AN 'AD VALOREM' PORT DUTY ON KEROSINE OIL.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Lieutenant-Governor, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 10 of 1877, intituled 'An Ordinance to amend in certain respects the Ordinance for the regulation of Customs in the Island of Ceylon,' and No. 14 of 1871, intituled 'An Ordinance to adjust Customs duties to the currency of rupees and cents,'" was read a first time, and the second reading fixed for the next meeting of Council.

On the motion of the Lieutenant-Governor, the Council at its rising adjourned till Monday, the 11th February, at 2 o'clock P.M.

Monday, 11th February, 1884.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Governor took the Chair.
2. Proceedings of the last meeting read and confirmed.
3. ASSENT TO BILL.—The Lieutenant-Governor announced that His Excellency the Governor had given his assent to the following Ordinance :—

   Ordinance No. 11 of 1884, intituled "An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 10 of 1877, entitled 'An Ordinance to amend in certain respects the Ordinance for the general regulation of Customs in the Island of Ceylon,' and No. 14 of 1871, entitled 'An Ordinance to adjust Customs Duties to the currency of rupees and cents.'"

4. PAPERS.—The Lieutenant-Governor laid on the table the following papers :—

   Sessional Paper No. XXVI. of 1883.—Grain Tax Commutation : Reports on the Commutation Settlements of certain divisions of the Galle and Mátara Districts.

   Comparative Statement of Railway Revenue and Tonnage for the year 1883.

   Statement showing in detail the amount of labour performed and money paid under the Ordinance No. 10 of 1861 during the year 1882.

   Statement showing the amount of Schedule Fees recovered by the Fiscals of the several Provinces under clause 16 of Ordinance No. 4 of 1867, during the quarters ended 30th September and 31st December, 1882, and 31st March, 1883.

5. MILITARY EXPENDITURE.—The Hon. J. VanLangenberg gave notice that at the next meeting of Council he would move that in the opinion of this Council—

(1) A European force of from four to five hundred men is sufficient to ensure the maintenance of internal tranquillity and good order;

(2) In the present circumstances of the Colony, and having regard to pressing demands on its resources, the expenditure of the Colony for military purposes in time of peace should not exceed Rs. 500,000 annually.

On the above motions, if passed, to move that an humble address be presented to Her Majesty the Queen praying Her Majesty to take the above resolutions into her most gracious consideration, at the same time assuring Her Majesty that in the time of war or in the event of apprehension of external danger, the Council will be prepared to give their loyal support to any fair claim which may be made for the defence of the Colony and the maintenance of Her Majesty's honor.

6. THEFT OF ESTATE PRODUCE.—The Hon. F. M. Mackwood, pursuant to notice, moved for a return of the number of complaints of theft of estate produce in the Central Province during the year 1883, and the result of such complaints; also for any papers bearing on this subject.

Seconded by the Hon. J. L. Shand.

The Lieutenant-Governor replied.

7. RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE ON THE PART OF CERTAIN MISSIONARY MANAGERS OF GRANT-IN-AID SCHOOLS.—The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan, pursuant to notice, called attention to the memorial of the Hindu inhabitants of the Jaffna peninsula, complaining of religious intolerance on the part of certain Missionary managers of grant-in-aid schools, and asked, in view of there being no Government schools in the Northern Province, what relief the Government intended to offer to the memorialists and others who, though desirous of learning English, are yet unable to learn it except at the sacrifice of their religious convictions.

The Lieutenant-Governor replied.

8. RAILWAY TO HATTON.—The Hon. J. L. Shand, pursuant to notice, asked what arrangements Government proposed to make as to the time of running trains, and the convenience of travellers, when the railway is open to Hatton.

The Lieutenant-Governor replied.

9. COOLY WAGES.—The Hon. F. M. Mackwood, pursuant to notice, moved for all correspondence, if any, between the Indian and Ceylon Governments bearing on the coolies' wages question now being considered by this Council.

Seconded by the Hon. J. L. Shand.

The Lieutenant-Governor replied.

10. CIVIL PROCEDURE CODE.—The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan, pursuant to notice, asked what action the Government proposed to take in regard to the Civil Procedure Code, which was referred to a Select Committee of the Council in its Session of 1880; and moved for papers.

The Lieutenant-Governor replied.

11. RETURN OF GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS PROPOSED TO BE TRANSFERRED TO LOCAL BOARDS AND MUNICIPALITIES.—The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan, pursuant to notice, moved that it was undesirable to transfer to Municipalities and Local Boards the maintenance and management of the Government schools included in the return recently laid before the Council.

Seconded by the Hon. G. B. Leechman.

The Council divided. Ayes, 2; Noes, 12; Majority, 10.—Motion lost.

12. REFORMATORIES FOR JUVENILE OFFENDERS.—The Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan obtained leave of Council to withdraw the motion standing in his name on this subject.

13. KANDY WATERWORKS LOAN BILL. The Council having gone into Committee on the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to authorize a loan of Rs. 250,000 to the Municipality of Kandy for the purpose of paying off a loan advanced under the authority of Ordinance No. 13 of 1877 for the construction of Waterworks," the further consideration of the Bill in Committee was postponed for the next meeting of Council.

14. TOLLS BILL.—The report of the Law Officers of the Crown, dated the 11th February, 1884, stating that there was in their opinion no legal impediment to the execution by the Colonial Tribunals of a law in terms of the Bill, having been read, the Bill was on the motion of the Lieutenant-Governor, seconded by the Attorney-General, recommitted. The Lieutenant-Governor having reported the Bill amended, the report was adopted, and, on the motion of the Lieutenant-Governor, seconded by the Attorney-General, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

15. BILL AUTHORIZING THE GOVERNOR'S SIGNATURE TO CROWN GRANTS TO BE ATTACHED BY A STAMP.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Lieutenant-Governor, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to authorize the Governor's signature to Crown grants to be attached by a stamp," was read a second time, and committed. The Attorney-

General having reported the Bill amended, the report was adopted, and the Bill ordered to be referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, the third reading being fixed for next meeting of Council.

16. BILL TO PROVIDE AGAINST PETTY THEFTS IN THE HARBOURS AND PORTS IN THIS COLONY.—On the motion of the Lieutenant-Governor, seconded by the Attorney-General, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to provide against petty thefts in the Harbours and Wharves of the Ports of this Colony," was read a second time and committed. The Lieutenant-Governor having reported the Bill amended, the report was adopted, and the Bill ordered to be referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, the third reading being fixed for the next meeting of Council.

17. BILL AMENDING ORDINANCE No. 16 OF 1865.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Lieutenant-Governor, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 16 of 1865, intituled 'An Ordinance to provide for the establishment and regulation of a Police Force in this Island,'" was read a second time and considered in Committee, and the Bill ordered to be referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, the third reading being fixed for next meeting of Council.

18. WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' PENSION FUND BILL.—The Council in Committee resumed consideration of this Bill. The Attorney-General having reported the Bill amended, the report was adopted, and the Bill ordered to be referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, the third reading being fixed for next meeting of Council.

19. BILL AMENDING ORDINANCE No. 18 OF 1877.—On the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Lieutenant-Governor, the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 18 of 1877, intituled 'An Ordinance to amend in certain respects the Ordinances for the general regulation of Customs in the Island of Ceylon," and No. 14 of 1871, intituled 'An Ordinance to adjust Customs duties to the currency of rupees and cents,'" was read a second time, and the Council went into Committte thereon. The Attorney-General having reported the Bill amended, the report was adopted, and the Bill ordered to be referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, the third reading being fixed for next meeting of Council.

20. BILL AMENDING ORDINANCE No. 11 OF 1865.—The Lieutenant-Governor as Chairman of the Sub-Committee appointed to report on the Bill, intituled 'An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 11 of 1865, intituled 'An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the law relating to servants, labourers and journeymen artificers under contracts for hire and service,'" having stated that the report of the Sub-Committee was not ready, the next meeting of Council was fixed for the bringing up of the report, and for the consideration of the Bill in Committee.

On the motion of the Lieutenant-Governor, the Council at its rising adjourned till Wednesday, the 13th February, 1884, at 2 o'clock P.M.

Wednesday, 13th February, 1884.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Governor took the chair.
2. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.
3. RETURN FURNISHED UNDER ORDINANCE No. 17 OF 1862.—The Hon. F. M. Mackwood, in accordance with the permission granted at last sitting, laid upon the table a form of return under Ordinance 17 of 1862, clause 20, and inquired what use was made by Government of the information thus afforded.

The Government Agent for the Central Province replied.

4. MILITARY EXPENDITURE.—The Hon. J. VanLangenberg, pursuant to notice, moved the following resolutions:—

"That in the opinion of this Council (1) The maintenance of a European force of from 400 to 500 men is sufficient to ensure the maintenance of internal tranquillity and good order; (2) In the present circumstances of the Colony, and having regard to pressing demands on its resources, the expenditure of the Colony for Military purposes in time of peace should not exceed Rs. 500,000 annually."

Seconded by the Hon. P. Ráma-Náthan. Carried.

Upon the motion of the Hon. J. VanLangenberg, seconded by the Hon. F. M. Mackwood, it was then resolved "that an humble address be presented to Her Majesty the Queen praying Her Majesty to take the above resolutions into Her most gracious consideration, at the same time assuring Her Majesty that in the time of war or in the event of the apprehension of external danger, the Council will be prepared to give their loyal support to any fair claim which may be made for the defence of the Colony and the maintenance of Her Majesty's honour."

On the motion of the Hon. J. VanLangenberg, seconded by the Lieutenant-Governor, the Attorney-General, the Government Agent, Western Province, the Hon. G. B. Leechman, and the Hon. J. VanLangenberg were appointed a Select Committee to frame the address.

5. KANDY WATERWORKS LOAN BILL.—The Council in Committee resumed consideration of this Bill. The Attorney-General having reported the Bill as amended, the report was adopted and the Bill ordered to be referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, the third reading being fixed for the next meeting of Council.

6. BILL TO AUTHORIZE THE GOVERNOR'S SIGNATURE TO CROWN GRANTS TO BE ATTACHED BY STAMP.—The report of the Law Officers of the Crown, stating that there was in their opinion no legal impediment to the execution by the Colonial Tribunals of a law in terms of the Bill having been read, the Bill was, on the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Lieutenant-Governor, read a third time and passed.

7. THEFTS IN THE WHARVES AND WAREHOUSES IN THE PORTS OF THIS COLONY.—The report of the Law Officers of the Crown, stating that there was in their opinion no legal impediment to the execution by the Colonial Tribunals of a law in terms of the Bill, having been read, the Bill was, on the motion of the Lieutenant-Governor, seconded by the Attorney-General, read a third time and passed.

8. BILL AMENDING POLICE ORDINANCE No. 16 OF 1865.—The report of the Law Officers of the Crown, stating that there was in their opinion no legal impediment to the execution by the Colonial tribunals of a law in terms of the Bill, having been read, the Bill was on the motion of the Lieutenant-Governor, seconded by the Attorney-General, read a third time and passed.

9. BILL AMENDING CUSTOMS ORDINANCE No. 18 OF 1877.—The report of the Law Officers of the Crown, stating that there was in their opinion no legal impediment to the execution by the Colonial Tribunals of a law in terms of the Bill having been read, the Bill was, on the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Lieutenant-Governor, read a third time and passed.

10. COOLY WAGES BILL.—The Lieutenant-Governor, as Chairman, brought up the report of the Sub-Committee on the Bill, which was read by the Clerk of the Council, and the Council went into Committee thereon. The Lieutenant-Governor having reported the Bill as amended, the report was adopted, and the Bill ordered to be referred to the Law Officers of the Crown, the third reading being fixed for the next sitting of Council.

11. WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' PENSION FUND BILL.—The report of the Law Officers of the Crown, stating that there was in their opinion no legal impediment to the execution by the Colonial tribunals of a law in terms of the Bill, having been read, the Bill was recommitted. The Lieutenant-Governor having reported the Bill as amended, the report was adopted, and the Bill read a third time and passed.

12. WHARF AND WAREHOUSE AMENDMENT BILL.—The Auditor-General, as Chairman, brought up the report of the Sub-Committee on the Bill, which was read by the Clerk of the Council. The further consideration of the Bill in Committee was adjourned till the next meeting of Council, and the Bill ordered to be referred to the Law Officers of the Crown.

13. WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' PENSION FUND.—The Lieutenant-Governor laid on the table despatch from the Secretary of State approving of the decision of the Legislative Council granting six per cent. interest on the capital of the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund.

On the motion of the Lieutenant-Governor, the Council at its rising adjourned till Thursday, the 14th February, 1884, at 11 o'clock A.M.

Thursday, 14th February, 1884.

1. The Council met pursuant to adjournment. His Excellency the Governor took the chair.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

3. MILITARY EXPENDITURE.—The Attorney-General, as Chairman, brought up the address to Her Majesty the Queen on the Military Expenditure of the Colony, resolved on at the last meeting of Council. The address having been read by the Clerk of the Council, was ordered to be forwarded for presentation to Her Majesty the Queen.

4. WHARF AND WAREHOUSE AMENDMENT BILL.—The Council in Committee resumed consideration of the Bill. The Lieutenant-Governor having reported the Bill as amended, the report was adopted. On the motion of the Lieutenant-Governor, seconded by the Attorney-General, the Standing Orders were suspended, and the Bill read a third time and passed.

5. COOLY WAGES BILL.—On the motion of the Lieutenant-Governor, seconded by the Attorney-General, the Bill was recommitted. The Lieutenant-Governor having reported the Bill as amended, and the report of the Law Officers of the Crown, stating that there was in their opinion no legal impediment to the execution by the Colonial Tribunals of a law in terms of the Bill, having been read, the Bill was, on the motion of the Lieutenant-Governor, seconded by the Auditor-General, read a third time and passed.

6. KANDY WATERWORKS LOAN BILL.—The report of the Law Officers of the Crown, stating that there was in their opinion no legal impediment to the execution by the Colonial Tribunals of a law in terms of the Bill, having been read, the Bill was on the motion of the Attorney-General, seconded by the Lieutenant-Governor, read a third time and passed.

7. Assent to Bills.—The Lieutenant-Governor announced that His Excellency the Governor had given his assent to the following Bills :—

Ordinance No. 11 of 1884, intituled "An Ordinance to authorize the Governor's signature to Crown Grants to be attached by a stamp."

Ordinance No. 12 of 1884, intituled "An Ordinance to provide against petty thefts in the Harbours and Wharves of the Ports of this Colony."

Ordinance No. 13 of 1884, intituled "An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 16 of 1865, intituled 'An Ordinance to provide for the establishment and regulation of a Police Force in this Island.'"

Ordinance No. 14 of 1884, intituled "An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 18 of 1877, intituled 'An Ordinance to amend in certain respects the Ordinances for the general regulation of Customs in the Island of Ceylon,' and No. 14 of 1871, intituled 'An Ordinance to adjust Customs duties to the currency of rupees and cents.'"

Ordinance No. 15 of 1884, intituled "An Ordinance to make provision for granting pensions to widows and children of deceased Public Officers of this Colony."

Ordinance No. 16 of 1884, intituled "An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 11 of 1865, intituled 'An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the law relating to servants, labourers, and journeymen artificers, under contracts for hire and service,' and to provide for the speedy recovery of wages due to labourers."

Ordinance No. 17 of 1884, intituled "An Ordinance to amend and continue in force Ordinance No. 10 of 1876, intituled 'An Ordinance to repeal the Wharf and Warehouse Ordinance, 1865, and to make further provision for the establishment in Colombo and regulation of a Company to perform the duties of Wharfingers and Warehousemen.'"

Ordinance No. 18 of 1884, intituled "An Ordinance to authorize a loan of Rs. 250,000 to the Municipality of Kandy for the purpose of paying off a loan advanced under the authority of Ordinance No. 13 of 1874 and Ordinance No. 1 of 1879 for the construction of Waterworks."

8. His Excellency the Governor closed the Session with the following address :—

Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council.

I am now enabled to release you for the present from your attendance to your legislative duties.

The Session which I now close has been a short one, but though technically distinct, it is impossible, in fact, to dissociate it from the laborious Extraordinary Session which immediately preceded it, and in which legislation of a very difficult and most useful character was effected.

The present Session, though short, has not been without importance, and I venture to think that in resolving to adopt the Address to Her Majesty the Queen, which you have this day agreed upon, you have taken a step which is likely to be attended with lasting benefit to the Island.

The legislation which you have adopted with a view to the better security of coolies' wages, has been very carefully and minutely considered, and will, I trust, fully secure the objects which it is intended to effect, without it being necessary for the Government to make use of the powers vested in it by the Ordinance.

I thank you for the readiness with which you have voted the supplies for the current year, and I venture to assure you that they will be administered with a scrupulous regard to the circumstances of the Colony and the exigencies of the Public Service.

I.—1883.

COLOMBO HARBOUR WORKS.

REPLIES TO QUESTIONS

REFERRED TO THE

CONSULTING ENGINEER.

(In continuation of Sessional Paper No. XXXVII. of 1882.*)*

Ordered by His Excellency the Governor to be Printed.

COLOMBO:

FRANK LUKER, ACTING GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1883.

COLOMBO HARBOUR WORKS.

The Crown Agents to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary, Ceylon.

Colombo Harbour Works.

No. 12/830.

Downing-street,
London, 9th March, 1883.

Sir,—With reference to your letter No. 30 of the 5th of February last, enclosing a list of questions relative to the Harbour Works at Colombo, asked by the Hon. W. W. Mitchell, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Governor, a copy of a letter from the Consulting Engineer giving the information desired.

I have, &c.,
W. C. SARGEAUNT.

Enclosure.

Sir John Coode to the Crown Agents.

Colombo Harbour.

5, Westminster Chambers,
6th March, 1883.

Gentlemen,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 3rd instant, enclosing copy of a letter from the Government of Ceylon, requesting replies to certain questions asked by the Hon. W. W. Mitchell respecting the Colombo Harbour Works.

The first set of questions may be grouped as follows:—What saving on the estimate given in my report of 25th November, 1882, would be effected (1st) if the lighthouses at the ends of the southern and northern arms were omitted, lights being provided as at present? (2nd) if the lighthouse jetties were omitted? and (3rd) if the concrete capping on southern and northern arms were omitted? To these queries I have to reply, that my estimate of 25th November, 1882, included the sum of £8,000 for a light for each arm, or £16,000 for both works; it also provided for two lighthouse jetties, one for each arm at £9,562 each, or £19,124 for the two; and a sum of £15,000 was included as the cost of the concrete capping to the south breakwater. No capping would be necessary for the north arm; there was, therefore, no item in the estimate to cover the cost of such a capping.

With regard to the omission of the proposed lighthouses and their accompanying jetties, and the provision of lights in lieu thereof of the same character as the present temporary light, I would beg to remark that, although I am impressed to the fullest possible extent with the necessity for the north arm, yet I should be sorry to see that arm undertaken if it can only be carried out by curtailing the necessary works of the southern breakwater to such an extent as to detract from the efficiency of the latter. To omit the lighthouse and jetty would, in my view, be to commit a grave error, which sooner or later would lead to serious results. The tower has been designed in accordance with the usual practice in such cases, and the jetty is necessary for the proper service of the light. Having regard to the magnitude of the interests involved, and to the loss of life and property which might ensue should an accident happen to one or more of the steamers frequenting the port from the insufficiency of the light, I trust there may be no hesitation as to the adoption of the lighthouse and jetty complete, as proposed, the cost of which, for the south breakwater, would be £17,562: they could not be carried out in a suitable manner for a less sum.

In reply to the enquiry as to the basis of my estimate of 25th November last, I have to state that the rates therein adopted were such as appeared to me to be fair and reasonable, having regard to all the circumstances of the case, at the same time bearing in mind the rapid progress which had been made in the advancement of the breakwater during the two then previous north-east monsoons.

With respect to the two concluding questions, viz., assuming that the lengthening of the southern arm would give the necessary complete protection, how much longer would it require to be than the arm as sanctioned? and what depth of water would such extension terminate in, and what would be the cost of such extension? I have already stated in a previous report that complete protection is not practically obtainable at Colombo by the construction of any single arm. To provide the requisite shelter two arms are essential.

I have, &c.,
JOHN COODE.

II.—1883.

CORRESPONDENCE

RELATING TO

THE REVISION OF THE DRAFT PENAL AND CRIMINAL CODES.

Ordered by His Excellency the Governor to be Printed.

COLOMBO:

FRANK LUKER, ACTING GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1883.

CONTENTS.

		PAGE.
DESPATCH	from the Right Hon. the Earl of Derby to Governor Sir J. R. Longden, K.C.M.G.; 14th March, 1883	1
ENCLOSURE	No. 1.—Mr. Burnside to the Colonial Office; 18th September, 1882 ...	*ib.*
Do.	No. 2.—The Colonial Office to Mr. Burnside; 7th October, 1882 ..	3
Do.	No. 3.— Do do. 31st October, 1882 ...	*ib.*
Do.	No. 4.—Mr. Burnside to the Colonial Office; 8th November, 1882 ...	*ib.*
Do.	No. 5.—Mr. Burnside to the Earl of Kimberley; 15th December, 1882 ...	4
Do.	No. 6.—Mr. Burnside to the Earl of Derby; 3rd January, 1883 ...	5
Do.	No. 7.—The Colonial Office to Mr. Burnside; 30th January, 1883 ...	9
Do.	No. 8.—Mr. Burnside to the Colonial Office; 5th March, 1883 ...	11

DRAFT PENAL AND CRIMINAL CODES.

The Right Hon. the Earl of DERBY to Governor Sir J. R. LONGDEN, K.C.M.G.

No. 91.—*Ceylon.* Downing-street, 14th March, 1883.

SIR,—WITH reference to my predecessor's despatch No. 373 of the 31st of October last, I have the honour to transmit, for your information and guidance, a copy of the correspondence noted below* which has taken place between this office and Mr. Burnside on the subject of the revision of the Draft Penal and Criminal Codes.

2. Copies of the Draft Codes, as finally revised by Mr. Burnside, will be forwarded to you through the Crown Agents, and I have to request you to bring them before the Legislative Council as soon as possible.

3. Mr. Burnside, in paragraph 32 of his letter of the 3rd of January last, has suggested that the titles of Queen's Advocate and Deputy Queen's Advocate should be changed to those given to the Law Officers of the Crown in most other colonies, viz., to Attorney-General and Solicitor-General. I am disposed to think that it would be advisable to adopt this proposal, and I shall be glad to be furnished with your views upon it.

I have, &c.,
DERBY.

Enclosure No. 1.

Mr. BURNSIDE to the COLONIAL OFFICE.

London, 18th September, 1882.

MY LORD,—I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Wingfield's despatch of the 18th ultimo, conveying to me your Lordship's instructions with reference to the Draft Ceylon Penal Code.

In obedience to your Lordship's directions, I have applied myself to the revision of the Code and have so far completed the amendments and modifications which have been agreed upon, but in the course of the work certain points have been disclosed, to which I would draw attention for the purpose of receiving your Lordship's views.

Section 62.—The Governor in Council have added the words "and such imprisonment may be with or without hard labour." This addition is entirely unnecessary, as the preceding section (61) provides for it, and besides, it would have the effect of authorizing rigorous punishment for the non-payment of a fine for an offence for which simple imprisonment only could be imposed. I have therefore not adopted the addition.

Section 66.—The word "any" which has also been added is entirely unnecessary. I have omitted it.

Section 70.—This section, as originally drafted by the Chief Justice, followed the Indian Penal Code, and provided for the punishment of persons on second conviction of offences punishable under *Chapter* XII., relating to coin and stamps, or to *Chapter* XVII., to offences against property. The Governor in Council have departed from the Code, and have substituted for *Chapter* XII. *Chapter* XVI., which refers to offences affecting the human body or life.

No reason whatever has been assigned for this essential change, nor is any reason for it apparent, whilst the objection to it is manifest. For most of the offences under the latter chapter, the period of imprisonment extends from 5 to 20 years, thus affording a wide margin for the exercise of judicial discretion on imposing increased punishment.

The 70th *section* is, however, imperative, and the effect of the amendment would be that, for second offences against the person, double the maximum punishment provided by the Code would have to be imposed. I do not think this has been properly understood, and there can be no reason why the provision of the Indian Code should be departed from. I have not therefore adopted the amendment, but wait instructions upon it.

Sections 116, 117, *and* 118.—Whilst I quite agree with Sir James Longden in the reasons which have been given for the omission of "forfeiture of property" as a punishment for most of the offences under the Code, I have grave doubts whether it would be prudent to extend the omission to the treasonable offences embraced in the above sections.

The Governor in Council are, I think, in error in their conclusion that this punishment is not in force in the Colony.

* Mr. Burnside, 18th September, 1882; Colonial Office, 7th and 31st October, 1882; Mr. Burnside, 8th November, and 17th December, 1882, and 3rd January, 1883; Colonial Office, 30th January, 1883; Mr. Burnside, 5th March, 1883.

Penal Code which pretended to completeness. Conspiracies are a most common offence in Ceylon, and are now dealt with under English and Roman-Dutch Law.

6. Unlawful drilling. It is easy to imagine circumstances under which it would be prudent and merciful that assemblies for the purpose of training to arms should be prevented before they culminated into acts which gave them a graver character. I would therefore make provision against them in the Code amongst those offences for which no prosecution can be initiated without the consent of the Queen's Advocate, or, in other words, the consent of the Executive Government.

It is with these views that I have framed the amendments, all of which follow the English Law as enunciated either in the Indictable Offences Bill or the Jamaica Code.

I have, &c.,
BRUCE L. BURNSIDE,
Queen's Advocate of Ceylon.

Enclosure No. 5.

Mr. BURNSIDE to the Earl of KIMBERLEY.

London, 15th December, 1882.

MY LORD,—I HAVE the honour to forward herewith two copies of the Draft "Ceylon Penal Code" as revised by me under your Lordship's instructions, and in accordance with the suggestions which have been from time to time made upon the various points which have come up for discussion, and which appear in the correspondence which has already taken place.

2. In the progress of the work, Mr. Wingfield has afforded me invaluable opportunities of discussing personally with him other points which required consideration, and as our views were seldom divergent, I have readily shaped several amendments in accordance with his suggestions.

3. I would especially direct attention to the matters referred to in my letter of the 8th of November.

4. I have carried my recommendations into effect in the following manner.

5. A section against defaming the Queen has been inserted as *section* 121.

6. *Section* 123 is in substitution for the original *section* 121, and has been framed on the model of a similar clause in the English "Indictable Offences Bill." The punishment provided in the original section has been retained.

7. With regard to conspiracies to commit offences, I have adopted the arrangement suggested by Mr. Wingfield, which is undoubtedly the more convenient, by altering the definition of "abetment" (*section* 103) so as to make it clear that such conspiracies would amount to "abetment."

8. It may have been contended that even as the section stood, when read with explanation 2 to *section* 104, it was sufficiently comprehensive, but it is better that no doubt should be left on the point.

9. The only matter for consideration is whether explanation 2, *section* 103, goes too far in embracing a conspiracy to do a thing out of Ceylon which would be an offence if done in Ceylon, and whether it should not be confined to a conspiracy to do a thing which if done out of Ceylon would be triable in Ceylon as an offence, or which if done would be an offence in Ceylon.

10. I have followed the "Jamaica Code," which, however, in my opinion, goes beyond the English Law.

11. The Jamaica Code was evidently aimed at conspiracies to wreck vessels outside of the local jurisdiction, but this might have been secured by extending the section to acts which, although done out of the Colony, were triable as offences in the Colony.

12. I have given the matter very anxious consideration, and in view of the doubts which suggest themselves to me as to the operation of the explanation as it stands, I think it would be better to restrict it to the two last alternatives which I have mentioned.

13. I would instance the following case as illustrating what I mean: A within the jurisdiction of Ceylon conspires with B, his partner, in France, that B should commit an act in France which, in the course of trade, would be fraudulent and an offence if done in Ceylon, but not an offence in France. This conspiracy under the explanation would be an offence and punishable in Ceylon, whilst the act to which it relates even if it had been committed, would have been no offence.

14. I may have put an extreme case, but the same anomaly is likely to arise wherever the act to which the conspiracy relates is merely *malum prohibitum*, and not *malum in se*, and it may be that in respect of prohibited acts which have the character of political offences, conflicts may be engendered between colonial law and a very emphatic and jealous sentiment in the mother country.

15. The provision against illegal drilling has been aptly inserted at the end of *section* 141.

16. A section against administering or taking unlawful oaths has been added. (*Section* 496.)

17. Besides these amendments, I have struck out *section* 188 of the original Code as most unnecessarily making penal an act which, on the face of it, should be merely the subject of a civil suit for damages. But apart from that, it seems to me injudicious to limit to a mere penalty of two hundred rupees the liability which in a civil action would extend to the actual loss which had been entailed by the breach of contract, which it is sought to make a criminal act.

18. In amending *section* 194, which relates to the giving of false evidence upon which an innocent person is convicted and suffers death, I have not followed the Indian Penal Code, inasmuch as it permits the court to award alternative sentence of death or imprisonment. I have

made the punishment death alone, as in the case of murder, the mitigation of the punishment being left to the prerogative, and I think it would be as well if the same principle were adopted in section 117.

19. The original Draft Code contained two sections: 211, "fraudulently suffering a decree for a sum not due," and 213, "fraudulently obtaining a decree for a sum not due." These sections are clearly correlative. I find, however, that section 211 has been struck out in a copy of the original Draft Code forwarded by the Governor as amended by the Council, but I can find no notice of this amendment. It must have occurred through mistake, and I have restored it.

20. I have not adopted the amendment made by the Governor in Council to section 377 of the original Code by reducing the age under which a female may not be kidnapped from sixteen to fourteen years. No reasons were assigned for this important departure from the text of the Indian Code, and it is difficult to conceive upon what grounds male and female should be put on the same footing with regard to age in respect of this offence.

21. In preparing the Code of Criminal Procedure it became necessary to define the jurisdiction of police courts over offences against the Penal Code. The police courts at present have punitive powers extending to six months' imprisonment or fine of fifty rupees.

22. The original Draft of the Ceylon Penal Code followed the Indian Penal Code in the amount of punishment prescribed for offences, and my attention was attracted to the disproportion which existed in the amounts of money penalties and the alternative periods of imprisonment for the same offence, especially so for the minor offences—six months' imprisonment, or five hundred, or even one thousand rupees fine, constantly appearing together as equivalent punishments.

23. In order, therefore, to prevent the anomaly which would be created of police courts having jurisdiction to impose the full penalty of imprisonment for six months, and only fifty rupees as a fine, which would leave the rest of the punishment (viz., fine in excess of fifty rupees) a mere dead letter, I have throughout the Penal Code reduced the maximum penalty corresponding to six months' imprisonment to one hundred rupees, and have also reduced the other penalties below it in proportion, and I propose in the Procedure Code to raise the punitive powers of the police courts to a maximum of one hundred rupees.

24. This I consider a better course than to give police courts a jurisdiction in respect of fines to the excessive amounts originally fixed by the Code, and I think it will operate beneficially and be acceptable to colonial feeling.

25. The only case in which I have not followed this rule is in *section* 226, relating to contempts of court. For this offence it may be necessary on some occasions that the authority of the Supreme Court or the district courts should be invoked so that a higher punishment by way of fine might be imposed.

26. These are the only points to which I think I need call attention, and when they have been decided I think the Code will be found ready to be submitted to the criticisms of the public by publication in the *Gazette* preparatory to its being laid before the Legislature.

27. The table of contents is ready for the printer, but must be delayed until the present arrangement of the sections has been approved, when it will be printed with and form part of the Code, of which one hundred copies have been contracted for.

28. It is my intention to prepare as well an index of contents which will render the Code easier of reference.

29. I feel a satisfaction in also being able to report to your Lordship that I have completed a Draft Procedure Code based on the Indian Code which has not yet come into force.

30. The work is a very extensive one, and has engaged my unremitting attention for the past three months. It is now passing through the press, and I hope to be able to submit it to your Lordship in a very short time.

I have, &c.,
BRUCE L. BURNSIDE,
Queen's Advocate.

Enclosure No. 6.

Mr. BURNSIDE to the Earl of DERBY.

London, 3rd January, 1883.

MY LORD,—I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a Draft of a "Code of Criminal Procedure" which I have prepared as directed by your Lordship's predecessor in a despatch from Mr. Wingfield under date the 18th of August last.

2. I desire to explain at once that I have not adopted the Draft which was submitted for my consideration, as I found that it was incomplete in itself, evidently only a fragment essentially interwoven with a larger and more elaborate scheme of codification intended to embrace the entire administration of justice, both civil and criminal, which had been contemplated and to some extent formulated by Sir John Phear.

3. Sir John's scheme had not been submitted in its integrity to the Ceylon Legislature, which has already entered upon the consideration of a Code of Civil Procedure; nor did it contemplate the "Ceylon Penal Code," as adapted from the "Indian Penal Code," which has now been determined on. Besides which, although the Draft was to a very great extent an adaptation of the Indian Procedure, yet it followed in its arrangement the "Indian Procedure Code of 1872," which has been recently entirely remodelled and re-enacted by the "Indian Procedure Code of 1882," which only came into force on the 1st of the present year.

4. I have, however, not hesitated—as I should not because of the eminent authority from which it emanates—to adopt, and to incorporate into the Draft submitted herewith, any matter

contained in Sir John Phear's Draft which seemed especially fitted to the local requirements of the Colony.

5. It is the Indian Code of Procedure of 1882 that I have made the basis of the accompanying Draft. I have carefully followed it wherever the local circumstances and requirements of Ceylon would permit, and where I have departed from it it has been more in detail than in principle.

6. I have not attempted to interfere with the constitution of the courts. It seemed to me undesirable and unnecessary to do so. Such legislation must necessarily open up embarrassing questions as to how far the newly-created court represents the one it supplants.

7. My desire was that the procedure should be such as might readily be applied by the courts which at present administer the criminal law, and I found that the Indian Procedure, as presented by the new Code in its relation to the Indian Penal Code, offered a ready and well-digested system for imitation in relation to the Ceylon Penal Code which it is proposed to adopt.

8. I cannot find that there is any such essential departure in the procedure laid down by this Code from that at present in use, as can occasion any objections to it in principle. Where there is a difference in minor matters, the precedent of the Indian Code may be cited in support of it; and I venture to hope that to those officers who are called upon without especial and professional training to perform judicial functions it will be found, if they become familiar with it, a ready and patent authority, rendering their work less arduous and the administration of justice more perfect.

9. I will now proceed to deal with those portions of the Code to which I desire to direct attention.

10. *Part* I., *section* 2.—I have not added the repealing schedule. It will be more readily done after the entire provisions of the Code have been decided on.

11. *Part* II., *Chapter* II.—I have not included village tribunals in the operation of this Code. It was especially intended that the proceedings of those courts should be "free from the formalities of judicial proceedings," and however judicious such an exemption may have been, it is the essential characteristic of the tribunals which would have been ignored had they been made subject to the exact procedure of a Code.

12. When the Penal Code has been passed, it will be necessary to define the jurisdiction of those tribunals over offences under the Code. At present their jurisdiction is declared with reference to offences under the existing criminal law, much of which will be swept away by the Code.

13. *Section* 9.—It is in this section that the first essential change in the jurisdiction of courts will be effected. Under the present law, the jurisdiction to examine into and commit for trial offences over which superior courts have jurisdiction vests only in justices of the peace. A police magistrate, as such, has no power to commit for trial. This anomaly has been fruitful of great inconvenience, delay, and miscarriage of justice. It has been the subject of such repeated comments, that it is unnecessary that I should dwell further on it. By this section police magistrates are invested with the same jurisdiction to inquire into offences and commit for trial as is now vested in justices of the peace, and it will be found in subsequent chapters that the procedure in such cases is defined. I will refer to the subject hereafter.

14. Police magistrates are also invested with the duties of coroners, and a process is subsequently provided for holding inquiries which are to take the place of inquests by a jury. This is one of the most important departures from the present law, and I desire to call attention to it. I have adopted it from Sir John Phear's Draft, and although I had some hesitation at first, I have, after careful consideration, arrived at the conclusion that it will be a beneficial change.

15. At present the duties of coroners are for the most part performed by the police magistrates who are appointed coroners, and by persons who are appointed as deputy-coroners.

Inquests are to be held with a jury of not less than five persons. It has been questioned, I think upon the authority of judicial dicta, whether criminal proceedings in a superior court can be founded on inquest proceedings simply; and the practice always is to take justice of the peace proceedings in all cases where an offence is disclosed or suspected. In the outlying districts, where the possibility of obtaining an intelligent jury is remote, the verdict at the inquest is virtually that of the coroner, or in other words, of the police magistrate or his deputy, who first performs the duty of coroner, and then that of police magistrate or justice of the peace. This is circumlocution which leads to no good result, and if sufficient guarantees are given for securing an efficient inquiry into all cases of sudden death or death by accident, &c., I see no reasons why the inquiry with the aid of a jury should not be dispensed with.

16. I have retained all the provisions of the present law requiring notice to be given of any sudden death, &c. (see *sections* 22 *and* 23), and have made special provision for the holding of inquiries (see *Chapter* XVII.); and I think the matter may be thus left for discussion in the Legislature. I would, however, add a further section compelling an inquiry into all cases of death in an asylum or prison in which inquests are now held.

17. *Chapter* III.—I have appended to the Draft, in manuscript, the form which the schedule to the 10th *section* will take, following the Indian Code. Nothing will be clearer as showing the jurisdiction of each court over offences created by the Ceylon Penal Code; and with reference to other offences, the 11th section will govern.

18. I have left the minimum punishment which will fix the jurisdiction under this latter section in blank, as I would desire to consult some local authority before deciding on the point.

19. In *section* 14 I have increased the punitive jurisdiction of a district court from one to two years, and in *section* 15, of a police court from fifty to one hundred rupees. I have given my reasons for these changes in my last report on the Ceylon Penal Code.

20. I have availed myself of the opportunity of inserting in this chapter *sections* 17 and 18, permitting a police inquiry or trial to be continued by a magistrate other than the one

instituting proceedings where the latter ceases from any cause to exercise jurisdiction. This point has been the subject of previous correspondence.

21. *Part* III., *Chapter* VI. (C.)—The proceeding by Proclamation is new in Ceylon, and will be very useful.

22. *Chapter* VII. (C.), *section* 79.—This is also new, but a very necessary provision.

23. *Chapter* IX.—The provisions of this chapter are entirely new to the written law of Ceylon. It will be observed that there are no legal obligations imposed upon the military if called in to suppress a riot, whilst the protection against legal prosecution for anything done is as ample as could be justified.

24. *Chapters* X. *and* XI.—Most of the provisions of these chapters are also new, but they are very salutary.

25. *Part* VI., *Chapter* XIV.—The new law in this chapter will be found in sections 138 and 147. By the former I have met a vexed question—as to how far the jurisdiction of the local courts extends to the territorial waters, by giving jurisdiction to any court within the local jurisdiction of which an offender may be or be found.

I think *section* 147 will be useful. I have adopted it from the Draft submitted to me, except that I have substituted "the Queen's Advocate" for "the Supreme Court." I think the delay which would have taken place before a decision could be obtained from the Supreme Court would have rendered the section practically useless.

26. *Sub-section* B., *section* 149.—These are sections adapted from the Indian Code, and are intended to prevent private prosecutions for offences which affect the administration of justice, and the prosecution of judicial and other officers, except with the authority of the court whose proceedings have been affected, or of the Government, the Queen's Advocate being the mouthpiece of the Government in this respect.

27. *Chapters* XVI., XVII., *and* XIX.—In these chapters will be found the procedure which I have devised for conducting inquiries by police magistrates into offences cognizable by the Supreme and district courts, and in substitution of coroner's proceedings, and for conducting trials for offences over which summary jurisdiction is given to police magistrates.

Besides the usual course of proceeding on information or complaint, I have given to the Queen's Advocate the right, as public prosecutor, to institute proceedings before magistrates (see *sub-section* 5, *section* 156). This change, already suggested by me, has been approved of by a majority of the judges, and I strongly urge its adoption.

28. Under the Code police magistrates will occupy two positions,—the one ministerial, for holding inquiries; the other judicial, for trying offences; and the line of demarcation between the two duties is clearly drawn, whilst the transition from one to the other is rendered easy and devoid of complication.

When a complaint is made to a police magistrate the first point to be considered by him is whether he has jurisdiction to try it summarily, or whether it involves an offence triable only by a superior court. The schedule will afford him a ready authority upon this point, but even if he should from any circumstance be misled in the commencement of proceedings, provision is made (see *sections* 172 *and* 236) whereby the case may have to be transferred to its legitimate forum and be there dealt with with facility.

29. It will be found that I have closely adhered to the Indian Procedure. On these heads most of the sections have a counterpart in the Indian Code, only that I have not retained the distinction, which is there drawn, for the purpose of giving jurisdiction between offences in which a warrant may issue in the first instance and those in which a summons may issue. I leave the question of jurisdiction to be decided by the schedule; the only distinction drawn is between offences triable by the superior courts and those triable by police courts, treating the latter as summary trials.

30. The provisions of *sections* 227, 228, *and* 229 are new to Ceylon, but have been found useful, in other colonies and in England, in conferring on inferior courts jurisdiction, by consent of the accused, over offences otherwise beyond their jurisdiction. I have limited the punitive powers of magistrates under these sections to double the ordinary punishment which limits their jurisdiction, without reference to the actual punishment which a district court might impose for the same offence; but I see no objection to permitting them to impose the full penalty prescribed for the offence.

31. *Chapter* XVIII.—This law is entirely new, and is almost a transcript from the Indian Code. It will simplify criminal proceedings, avoid the technical objections which have prejudiced criminal trials, and secure to the accused full and intelligible information of the offence with which he is charged.

In connection with this chapter, it may be convenient to mention that there will be a schedule of forms attached to the Code which will include ample precedents of charges for all offences, besides forms of most of the other processes required by this Code. (See *section* 513.)

32. *Chapter* XX.—I have retained the official styles of "Queen's Advocate" and "Deputy Queen's Advocate" as designating the Law Officers of the Crown, but I think that the time has arrived when more English and appropriate designations should be given to them. I have already, in a communication to His Excellency Sir James Longden, called attention to the fact that when the official title of these officers was originally decided on, the Secretary of State adverted to the fact that they were scarcely appropriate, and now that the Roman-Dutch Law is, happily, passing away, perhaps it would be opportune if those appellations were allowed to pass away with it, and that the titles of Attorney and Solicitor-General should be substituted.

33. The necessity for *sections* 240 and 241 has already been urged by me, and the sanction of your Lordship's predecessor has been obtained for inserting them in this Code. They have been adapted from Sir John Phear's Draft.

34. With the exception of *section* 255, the proceedings under this chapter are in essential particulars the same as under the existing law. The necessity for such as are contained in section 255 has been already brought under the consideration of your Lordship's predecessor.

35. *Chapters* XXI. *and* XXII. require little comment, except that I have reduced the number of the jury from thirteen to nine, and have permitted a majority to return a verdict in all except capital cases.

I think this change will meet with universal approbation in the Colony, where the limited number of persons from whom juries are drawn causes jury duty to press very severely, and to be a great tax on the time of the few who are called on to perform it.

36. I have also required (*section* 280) that in all capital cases the accused shall be regularly tried, notwithstanding that he may plead guilty. No capital sentence can be carried into effect except with the sanction of the Governor in Council, and unless there is a trial the Governor in Council have no data to go upon in dealing with a capital sentence. I know from experience that so much embarrassment has been occasioned in consequence of there having been no trial that the sanction of the Governor in Council has been withheld, and, upon my advice, it has been suggested to the Supreme Court that in all cases a trial should be had.

37. *Chapter* XXIII.—Of juries, *sections* 320 *to* 346.—This chapter retains the age and property qualifications, and the division of juries into three classes—English, Sinhalese and Tamil—which now exists, but the disqualifications and exemptions have been materially curtailed. I have followed Sir John's Draft in these particulars, and as they are essentially questions for local discussion and decision, I presume they may be left to be dealt with by the Legislature.

38. The procedure which I have laid down (328 to 333) for securing fairness in the selection of juries, and that each juror may take his regular turn in doing jury duty, is new, and will, I hope, have the desired effect. I have bestowed much care on framing these sections, and have had in view another colony where the same process works well.

39. *Chapter* XXIV.—I must admit that it is not without much hesitation that I have adopted the provisions contained in *section* 353 of this chapter, giving the power to courts of examining an accused. It is the Indian practice, and I presume must have been found to work well, as it has been retained. I have no experience of it, and I cannot disguise a fear that it will afford opportunities of defence to a crafty and habitual criminal, and be a source of embarrassment to the disingenuous and inexperienced. The other sections of this chapter, relating to tenders of pardon, are in accordance with English law.

40. *Chapter* XXV.—Inasmuch as most of the proceedings before a police magistrate will be subject to appeal, I have made no difference in the manner in which the evidence taken before police courts in a summary way and otherwise shall be recorded. In all cases it is to be fully recorded and properly certified. The examination of an accused is likewise to be recorded with all the formalities and safeguards which are calculated to ensure its correctness.

41. *Chapter* XXVII.—Execution, *section* 376.—This is only a transcript of the present law. *Section* 378 is new, and intended to settle a point of much controversy.

42. *Sections* 385 *to* 390.—These are from the Indian Code, and I need not point out how necessary they are.

43. *Part* VII.—Of Appeals. *Chapter* XXXI.—I have departed from the existing law on this subject in the particulars contained in *sections* 405, 407, and 409.

Section 405.—It would seem to be unnecessary to say anything in support of prohibiting an appeal after an accused has pleaded guilty and submitted himself to the judgment of the court.

Section 407.—It is absolutely necessary, if the appeal work is to be kept within the capacity of the Supreme Court to deal with it, that there should be some restriction upon the unlimited right of appeal which exists in every case, and it seems to me that any individual case of hardship which may be occasioned by the limit which this section imposes will be far outbalanced by the corresponding public good which will result in checking the frivolous appeals which now take place; appeals which for the most part are made for the mere purpose of gaining time, or prejudicing the adverse party. I propose, therefore, to take away the right of appeal from district court sentences which do not exceed three months' imprisonment or a fine of one hundred rupees, and from police court sentences which do not exceed one month imprisonment or a fine of twenty-five rupees. I except the right of appeal on questions of law, and I reserve the right of the court to grant leave to appeal.

44. With these restrictions, and with the further provision in *section* 409, whereby an appellant in every case is required to give security to prosecute his appeal and to abide the judgment of the Appellate Court, I anticipate that the labours of the Supreme Court will be reduced within a measurable compass, and that the present scandalous abuse of the right of appeal may be checked.

45. *Part* VIII., *Chapter* XXXIII.—Lunatics.—It will be found that the procedure here laid down with respect to criminal lunatics is precisely the same as that of India, and is to some extent the same as that at present existing in Ceylon, but it is a decided improvement upon it, and meets every contingency which may occur in the trial and disposal of this unfortunate class of criminals.

46. *Chapter* XXXIV.—In this chapter the law relating to contempts of court is dealt with and brought into method. Power is given to punish, summarily, contempts in the face of the courts, and to send offenders for severer punishment whenever the nature of the case may require it.

47. *Chapter* XXXV.—Maintenance of wives and children.—It may be questionable how far the subject of this chapter should find any place in a Code of Procedure. The provisions, however, supply a want daily experienced, and I follow the precedent of the Indian Code in inserting them.

48. *Chapter* XXXVI.—Whilst inserting this chapter, following the Indian Code as well as Sir John Phear's Draft, I must confess that I did not exactly see the necessity for it, as the Supreme Court has by its Charter, and I presume the High Courts in India have, ample powers to issue mandates in the nature of *Habeas Corpus*. The process provided by this chapter may, however, be more readily applied to the cases particularly specified, and may be useful; but I have not taken away the Supreme Court's powers to issue a *Habeas Corpus*, as I find Sir John's Draft proposed to do.

49. In *Chapter* XXXVIII., *sections* 473 and 474, I have inserted sections making provision, as exists in England, for taking the examination of dying persons with regard to an offence or supposed offence, although no one may be charged with having committed it; and in *section* 480 I have provided that such examinations may be used as evidence. I have only followed the English law in what has been found to be in other colonies a very useful provision.

50. *Chapter* XXXIX, *section* 479.—A better place for this section would undoubtedly be in an Ordinance on Evidence, and when such an Ordinance is prepared it should be transferred to it; but as there is no existing law under which depositions taken under this Code would be produced in evidence, it became necessary to make provision immediately for it, and I have drafted the section from the Indian Evidence Code.

51. *Chapter* XLIV. contains all that is required under the Fugitive Offenders' Act, 1881.

52. I have submitted the Code in its present rough Draft so that any amendments in detail or otherwise might be made before it is finally printed and submitted for the consideration of the colonial authorities.

53. Although I have worked upon it with unremitting labour, the time at my disposal has not permitted me to give it that careful and exact final supervision which a work of this kind requires, but which I hope to be able to bestow on it before it finally passes through the press here, and when it is under the consideration of the Governor in Council; and I can only express a hope that the work, as a whole, may commend itself to your Lordship's approval, and that it may meet a want which has for a long time existed without being satisfied.

I have, &c.,

B. L. BURNSIDE,
Queen's Advocate of Ceylon.

Enclosure No. 7.

The Colonial Office to Mr. Burnside.

Downing-street, 30th January, 1883.

Sir,—I am directed by the Earl of Derby to inform you that he has had under his consideration the Drafts of a Penal Code, and a Criminal Procedure Code for Ceylon, the former revised, and the latter prepared by you under instructions from his Lordship's predecessor, which were transmitted with your letters of the 15th of December and the 3rd instant, respectively, and which are returned herewith.

2. With regard to the Draft Penal Code, Lord Kimberley decided that it should be framed on the model of the Indian Penal Code, with such modifications as might be required by local conditions, and he fully considered and caused you to be furnished with his views upon various modifications of the Indian Code, some of which were introduced by Sir Richard Cayley in the original Draft, and others were suggested either by you or by the Governor and Executive Council. Lord Derby does not propose to re-open the questions so decided by his predecessor.

3. Adverting to the matters referred to in your letter of the 8th of November, and in paragraphs 3 to 16 of your letter of the 15th of December, I am to state that Lord Derby approves of the provisions which you have inserted in the Draft relating to the defamation of the Sovereign (§121), or seditious offences (§123), the administration or taking of unlawful oaths (§496), and unlawful drilling (§141, *sub-section* 6); but he is of opinion that the punishment for the offences specified in *section* 123 should be simple imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years. His Lordship also concurs in the alteration of §103, by which conspiracy to commit an offence is made punishable although not followed by any act or illegal omission, but he considers that explanation 2 appended to that clause goes too far in embracing conspiracies to commit out of Ceylon acts which would be offences if committed in Ceylon, and that it should be amended by omitting all the words after the words "any other person." The effect of such amendment, combined with the amendment of §38 which is suggested in a subsequent paragraph of this letter, will be to limit the operation of the Code to conspiracies to commit offences punishable in Ceylon.

4. In §38 (*b*), *sections* 103, 104, 114, 115 and 116 should be added to those already enumerated, and instead of the words "under any special law," some such words as "punishable in Ceylon under any law" should be substituted, so as to include offences punishable under Imperial Statutes; and in §38 (*c*), for "legislative enactment," the words "law other than this Code" should be substituted.

5. In §57, the words "in the way of school discipline" might be omitted.

6. In §§154 and 155 the owner or occupier of land is made punishable for the omissions of his agent or manager. Lord Derby cannot approve of this, and the clauses should be altered accordingly.

7. It is not, in his Lordship's opinion, desirable that the offence of rape should be punishable with whipping.

8. The question of the age to be specified in defining the offence of kidnapping from lawful guardianship in the case of a female is one for the determination of which local knowledge and experience is required. Lord Derby therefore desires to leave it to the decision of the Government and the Legislature of Ceylon without expressing any opinion upon it.

9. The reduction of the fines corresponding to the punishment of imprisonment for terms of six months and under, and the alterations of the Draft as amended by the Governor in Council, mentioned in paragraphs 17, 18, and 19 of your letter of the 15th of December, have his Lordship's approval.

10. Upon the Draft Code of Criminal Procedure, Lord Derby desires me to make the following observations.

11. His Lordship approves of your having framed this Code on the model of the Indian Procedure Code of 1882, and of your not having included village tribunals in its operation.

12. The transfer to the police magistrates of the jurisdiction hitherto exercised by Justices of the Peace to hold preliminary inquiries and commit for trial persons charged with offences cognizable only by the superior courts, will effect a change in the law the necessity of which has long been recognized, and the substitution of inquiries to be held by police magistrates for coroner's inquests appears to be desirable for the reasons assigned in your letter of the 3rd instant, and in the memorandum by Sir John Phear of the objects and reasons of the Draft Criminal Procedure Code prepared by him. A clause should be added, as you propose, providing that an inquiry shall be held in every case of a death in an asylum or prison in which an inquest would be held under the existing law.

13. Lord Derby approves of the increase of the maximum fine which may be imposed by a police court from Rs. 50 to Rs. 100, and he is disposed to concur in your opinion that the maximum term of imprisonment to be imposed by a district court should be raised to two years, but upon this point he is prepared to defer to the opinion of the Colonial Legislature.

14. The power to inflict a sentence of whipping on a person above the age of 16 years should not, in his Lordship's opinion, be given to the police courts, and he is inclined to think that it should be reserved for the Supreme Court alone.

15. The restriction imposed by §19 (*b*) upon the aggregate punishment to be inflicted by a police court for several offences should be extended to the district courts.

16. Lord Derby does not think it advisable to adopt in Ceylon the provision of the Indian law which empowers the magistrate on a preliminary inquiry, or the court at a trial, to examine an accused person, but he considers that the accused may properly be allowed to give evidence, not upon oath, on his own defence, and that in that case he should be subject to cross-examination as to matters relevant to the issue, but not as to matters affecting his credit or character. In preliminary examinations, the existing English practice as to questioning the accused and taking down his statement, if any, should be adhered to.

17. As the Queen's Advocate is empowered by §248 to designate for the trial of an accused person committed for trial by a police magistrate a different court from that to which he has been committed, there does not appear to be any necessity for the preliminary reference by the magistrate to the Queen's Advocate directed by §§179 and 242.

18. With regard to §255, Lord Derby is inclined to think that instead of the Supreme Court being called upon to decide whether the accused person ought to be committed for trial, the Queen's Advocate should be empowered to file a criminal information either in the Supreme Court or in a district court in the cases to which the clause refers.

19. The 285th clause should be altered so as to leave it to the discretion of the court to receive or refuse to receive a plea of guilty to a charge of murder.

20. The provisions by which the number of the jury is reduced from thirteen to nine, and the verdict of a majority is made sufficient in all except capital cases, have his Lordship's approval; and having regard to the representations which have been made by Mr. Justice Clarence as to the frequency of unsatisfactory verdicts in Ceylon, he would not object to a power being given to the judge, when the verdict is not unanimous and he is dissatisfied with it, to discharge the jury and retry the case with a fresh jury.

21. The Code should provide that every sentence of whipping shall be inflicted within the walls of a prison, and in the presence only of the officers whose presence may be necessary.

22. Lord Derby approves of the limitations of the right of appeal imposed by §§406 and 407, but it appears to him that the provision in §409, requiring every appellant to give security to prosecute his appeal, might be oppressive in some cases, and that it will be sufficient to provide that an appellant who appeals against a sentence of imprisonment shall not be released from custody pending the appeal without bail.

23. In §431 it seems right that a proviso should be added similar to that which is to be found in §439 of the Indian Procedure Code, to the effect that no judgment or sentence shall be altered to the prejudice of the accused without his having had the opportunity of being heard either personally or by pleader.

24. *Chapter* XXXV. does not seem appropriate to a Code of Criminal Procedure, and should be made the subject of a separate enactment.

25. Subject to the foregoing observations and to certain verbal alterations which have been indicated in the margin of each of the drafts, but which need not be more particularly referred to here, I am to convey to you Lord Derby's general approval of both of the Draft Codes and his appreciation of the care and labour which you have bestowed upon them.

26. I am to request that you will make such amendments as may be necessary to give effect to his Lordship's views above expressed, and proceed with the printing of the Draft Codes in order that printed copies may be transmitted to the Governor as early as possible, with a view to their introduction in the Legislative Council in the course of the ensuing spring.

27. I am to add that Lord Derby is disposed to agree with your suggestion, that the titles of Attorney-General and Solicitor-General should be substituted for those of Queen's Advocate and Deputy Queen's Advocate of Ceylon, and that he proposes to bring the question under the consideration of the Governor.

I am, &c.,
E. WINGFIELD.

Enclosure No. 8.

Mr. BURNSIDE to the COLONIAL OFFICE.

London, 5th March, 1883.

SIR,—WITH reference to Mr. Wingfield's despatch of the 30th of January, I have the honour to report that I have completed the revision of the Ceylon Penal and Procedure Codes, and they have been printed. I have directed Messrs. Harrisons to send to the Colonial Office seventy copies of the Ceylon Penal Code, and fifty of the Procedure Code.

I have substantially carried into effect the directions and instructions of the Secretary of State, with the exception of the suggestion relating to the somewhat circuitous procedure by which the control of the Queen's Advocate is secured in selecting the court to which magistrates shall commit cases for trial.

With the experience I have had, as Queen's Advocate of Ceylon, I cannot think that it would be prudent to leave it to the discretion of police magistrates to determine the court of trial for the more serious offences; this power should remain, where it practically now is, in the Queen's Advocate.

If magistrates are permitted in the first instance to select the court, reserving to the Queen's Advocate only the power of changing it if he should think the selection an imprudent one, I fear the power would, of necessity, have to be exercised frequently, and much inconvenience, if not insuperable difficulty, would be encountered in securing the presence of the accused and the attendance of witnesses at a court at which they had not been bound over to appear.

The provision in the Code whereby the Queen's Advocate is empowered to change the court of trial, even after a commitment had been made to it by his instructions, is only intended to meet exceptional cases when the circumstances of the particular case would permit it without prejudice to the Crown or the accused.

The difficulties to which I have alluded would, in my opinion, far outweigh the objections to the procedure of the Code as it now stands; at the same time, I regret that I have not been able to suggest some more ready way of arriving at the desired object, but I will continue to give the subject my consideration with that view.

I would beg to express to the Secretary of State the gratification and satisfaction which has been afforded me in receiving, through Mr. Wingfield, His Lordship's approbation of the manner in which the work allotted to me has been performed.

I have, &c.,
B. L. BURNSIDE.

III.—1883.

PEARL BANKS.

REPORT

OF A

RECENT INSPECTION OF THE PEARL BANKS

BY

CAPTAIN J. DONNAN.

Ordered by His Excellency the Governor to be Printed.

Colombo:
FRANK LUKER, ACTING GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1883.

INSPECTION OF THE PEARL BANKS.

The INSPECTOR OF THE PEARL BANKS to the Hon. the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Master Attendant's Office,
No. 45. Colombo, 17th April, 1883.

SIR,—I HAVE the honour to report my return to Colombo this morning from an inspection of the Pearl Banks off Arippu and Chilaw.

2. The banks inspected were the Cheval, Motarakam and Periya Paars off Arippu, the Karaitívu, Karkookalai and Alantura Paars off Karaitívu, and the Jekanpiddi, Chilaw, Wanatti, and Muttupanti Paars off Chilaw.

3. The Cheval and Motarakam banks were found to be completely bare of oysters, old or young, but the former was covered on the S.W. and N.W. sides with seaweed, and on the S.E. side with a species of zoophyte or coraline characteristic of that portion of the bank. In regard to this weed I have observed that it only appears on the bank in any quantity when there are no oysters on it, or between a series of fisheries when the bank may be said to be non-productive. Whether it is the means of keeping oysters off the bank by covering up its rocky parts, or of restocking it with oysters by catching the spat, I have not as yet formed a positive opinion, but I am rather inclined to the latter belief, as the weed, growing straight up from the bottom to a height of two or three feet forms, as it were, a natural series of facines for oyster spat to cling to. I observed during the last non-productive period of the Cheval between 1864 and 1874, that a similar kind of weed then found growing upon it was often covered with oyster spat.

4. The Periya Paar in the neighbourhood of the ground fished in 1879, and including that ground, was found to be for some miles thickly covered with young oysters of from six to nine months, and I am hopeful of a fishery being obtained from the bank of 1879 a few years hence, and that some of these oysters may be drifted on to the Cheval during the coming S.W. monsoon.

5. No oysters were found on any of the banks off Karaitívu.

6. No oysters were found off Chilaw except on the Chilaw and Karrukkupanai Paars, but on these banks the oysters which I reported last year still exist in a thriving condition. I estimate the number now on the two banks at about 12,000,000, and I hope they will yield a fishery in March, 1885. It will be necessary to examine these two banks again next March, and perhaps to lift a test sample.

7. During this inspection I examined the ground between the Periya Paar and Karaitívu along the edge of the bank of soundings which has never been examined before, at least, I can find no record of any such examination. I have often been anxious to do this, as I supposed that rocky ground favourable for oysters to settle upon existed all the way between these two places, but such is not the case. The rocky ground of the Periya Paar ends about two miles south of the fishery ground of 1879; then there is a space of about seven miles of nothing but sand; and then rocky ground begins again about two miles north of Karaitívu, and I believe it will be found continuous from that point south as far as Chilaw, but this requires confirmation. I also examined some new ground off Muttuppanti, which attracted my attention last year when returning to Colombo from Sillavaturai, and which has proved to be fine rocky ground favourable for oysters, but I found no oysters upon it. I thought it was a comparatively small detached rocky bed, but on proceeding from it along the coast northwards there seemed to be miles of similar ground, and it would be advisable to carry on an examination from this place to Navakaddo on the next favourable opportunity. Time could not be afforded for doing so on this occasion.

8. I shall forward a copy of my diary* of the inspection in a few days.

I am, &c.,
J. DONNAN,
Inspector of Pearl Banks.

* Not printed.

IV.—1883.

THE KOTAHENA RIOTS.

REPORT

OF A

COMMISSION APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR

TO INQUIRE INTO

THE CAUSES WHICH LED TO THE RECENT RIOTS AT KOTAHENA.

Ordered by His Excellency the Governor to be Printed.

Colombo:
FRANK LUKER, ACTING GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1883.

THE RIOTS COMMISSION.

WE, the Commissioners appointed by Your Excellency to enquire into the causes which led to the riots in Colombo on the 25th March, 1883, when a Buddhist procession, marching to the Buddhist temple at Kotahéna under a license granted by the police, was attacked by a large body of Roman Catholics, and many persons were seriously, and one mortally, wounded; and also to enquire into and report upon the inability of the police to maintain order, and the necessity of calling for the aid of the military forces of the Crown before the riots could be suppressed, having completed our enquiries and brought our deliberations to a close, have now the honour to submit to Your Excellency our report.

2. We have examined a number of witnesses who, in our opinion, were able to throw light on the subject of our enquiry, and have referred to the records in the offices of the Inspector-General of Police and of the Superintendent of the Western Province; we have also read and considered a letter dated 16th April, 1883, addressed to Government by a Committee of Buddhists, and also two reports from the Inspector-General of Police to Government—one upon the riots generally, and the other having reference to a departmental enquiry into the conduct of a police inspector charged with bribery.

3. It may be useful to preface our report with a short sketch of the formation and growth of the Roman Catholic and Buddhist settlements at Kotahéna, which are, unfortunately, in such close proximity to each other; after which the report will take the following form:—

I.—A narrative of the actual events which occurred in connection with the riots;
II.—A statement of the causes (direct and indirect) which led to the riots;
III.—General remarks on the riots;
IV.—Remarks on the inability of the police to maintain order; and on
V.—The necessity of calling for the aid of the military forces of the Crown.

4. The district of Kotahéna has long been the centre of the Roman Catholic religion in Colombo. The bishop holds a grant, dated 21st April, 1779, from the Dutch Government for the cathedral premises, but the place is said to have been occupied by the Roman Catholics long before that date. About eight years ago the old cathedral was pulled down, and the present building was commenced on a much larger scale. It is still in a very unfinished state, the work being slowly proceeded with as funds are collected. The grounds are about ten acres in extent, and are bounded on two sides by public streets. The buildings now consist of the cathedral, the residence of the bishop and priests, the school-house and the convent, the respective positions of which can be seen in the accompanying plan.

5. The Buddhist vihára, or temple, stands at a distance of only a few hundred yards from the cathedral. It was built about the year 1832, a portion of the land having been acquired in 1830 by private contributions, and dedicated as temple property to Dehirakande Terunnanse, who, in 1841, purchased an adjoining piece of land, and added it to the temple premises. On his death in 1843, the charge of the property devolved on Mohottiwatte Gunananda, the present incumbent (better known as Migettuwatte Unnanse), and two other priests who have since died. The vihára stands within its own grounds a short distance from the public road, enclosed by a wall. The building is small and the exterior unimposing. Of late years the interior decorations and other improvements have been energetically pushed forward by Migettuwatte Unnanse: it is through his exertions that the temple has reached its present importance among the Buddhists, and the recent festival was organized by him on a scale of unusual magnificence in honour of the completion of a large reclining figure of Buddha, as well as of other important additions and embellishments.

6. Migettuwatte Unnanse is a man of considerable energy and ability, but it would be difficult to select any Buddhist priest in Ceylon whose known character and disposition would be more calculated to excite angry feelings and provoke the wrath of Christian neighbours. He is a priest of the Amarapura sect, and was once ordained (Upasampadá), but he afterwards threw off his robes and became a layman. Since he rejoined the priesthood he has been content to remain a Sámanéra. He has considerable eloquence, and is recognized as a great champion speaker on all religious questions. He has more than once met Christian missionaries in public debate, defending his own religion and attacking theirs with considerable ability. He says that these debates have always been conducted with great courtesy on both sides; but he has the reputation of using, at times, violent language in his lectures and discourses, which gives great offence and irritation to his opponents. Even his co-religionists admit that he frequently transgresses the rules of free discussion, and they have expressed before us their disapproval of the terms in which he is in the habit of denouncing Christianity. He has written several papers and tracts against that religion, and is apparently well posted in all the free-thinking and anti-christian literature published in England and America. He is a member of the general council of the Theosophical Society, founded by Colonel Olcott.

I.—NARRATIVE OF EVENTS.

7. In January last, notice was given by the temple authorities that a grand Buddhist festival would be held in honour of the completion of the decorations of the vihára at Kotahéna,

and of the setting of the eyes of the new image of Buddha—a ceremony of great importance among the Buddhists. Arrangements were made for reading "pirit"* and preaching "baṇa"† for six or seven weeks, and it was proposed to invite five hundred priests to be present on the 31st March (the last day of the festival) in order that the five hundred sections of the "Tripitaka" scriptures might be repeated by them in one day, and five hundred "aṭapirikara" (the eight articles which constitute the personal property of a Buddhist priest), presented to them. These articles were to be brought with perahẹra and offered to the vihára by the Buddhist inhabitants of the villages in the neighbourhood of Colombo.

8. It was, however, intimated to Government on the 2nd February, by the Principal Civil Medical Officer, that small-pox was prevailing in the city, and thereupon the temple authorities were requested by Government to postpone any ceremonies likely to bring together a large concourse of people. Migettuwatte Unnanse undertook to comply with the wishes of Government, and to have no procession until the 31st March. But he appears to have thought (though there is no foundation for such suspicion) that this promise was obtained from him owing to misrepresentations contained in a petition by the Roman Catholics, and consequently he continued his arrangements as if no such promise had been given. Notices, purporting to be issued under the authority of Migettuwatte Unnanse, to bring in offerings with the usual perahẹra, were sent from Koṭahéna temple to the villages round Colombo, and Buddhist processions, which seems to have had the general sanction of the police without formal license, came to the vihára almost daily from about the middle of February.

9. For some time everything went on quietly and peaceably, but, as might have been expected, a change soon took place. The Roman Catholics first tired of, and then became irritated at, the constant parade of Buddhist rejoicing, which had been going on for days and weeks, and seemed likely to last for months. They saw large processions, accompanied by music, conveying offerings to the temple, daily passing their cathedral during the season of Lent, and at last they realized the fact that if these perahẹras continued, they might interfere with their own assemblies and festivals during Holy Week. This naturally aroused their jealousy and anger, and they began to fancy that all kinds of slights and insults to their religion were intended.

10. That unfriendly relations existed as early as the 6th March is evident from a letter written on that date by Father Massillamany, one of the resident priests of the cathedral, to the Inspector-General of Police, pointing out that the Roman Catholics were in the habit, from time immemorial, of having sacred processions every year on Palm Sunday, Good Friday, and Easter-day, and that it was rumoured the Buddhists intended to have perahẹras on the same days and through the same streets. He added that if such were the case, and the Roman Catholic processions were disturbed, there was likely to be fighting and bloodshed, and the missionaries of St. Lucia's cathedral could not be responsible for what might occur. In reply, a police officer, signing for the Inspector-General (who was absent from Colombo) informed Father Massillamany on the 6th March, that no one had applied for a license on the days specified, and added that whoever first did so would obtain one and receive legal protection; at the same time he reminded the reverend Father that a license was as necessary for the Roman Catholics as for the Buddhists. The priest replied on the 7th March, by asking that licenses for the three days mentioned in his first letter might be sent to him by bearer. Unfortunately, this request was not complied with, and the papers having been sent to the Superintendent of Police to be dealt with on the return of the Inspector-General to Colombo, no further steps were taken till the 15th March. The papers were then submitted to the Inspector-General, who made an order that if the Roman Catholics had been in the habit of having processions on Palm Sunday, Good Friday, and Easter-day, the Buddhists must forego any perahẹras on those days. This order is dated the 17th March, and presumably did not reach the Superintendent in time for him to cancel a license which had been issued by him on the 16th March for a procession by the Buddhists on Palm Sunday, the 18th March. Thus, while the licenses applied for by the Roman Catholics, as far back as the 7th March, for Palm Sunday and two other days were not issued, a Buddhist procession under the protection of the police entered the city on Palm Sunday, and then the first indications of open displeasure on the part of the Roman Catholics took place.

11. On that day when the Buddhist procession reached Saint Lucia's corner, which is the chief approach both to the Catholic cathedral and the Buddhist temple, some Roman Catholics endeavoured to obstruct its progress, and pelted stones at a figure carried in it. The offenders were dispersed by the police, but no steps were taken to bring any of them to justice, and this forms one of the complaints made by the Buddhists in their letter dated 16th April, 1883, paragraph 18 of which runs thus:—

"It will be found on enquiry that the interruption in the affairs of the Buddhist religion was first offered by the Catholics on the 18th March, when, as a certain perahẹra was coming to the vihára, a few of the Catholics stood on the road and showed resistance, and as the perahẹra was proceeding further on heedless of the remonstrance, they threw stones from a distance. The police who was at hand then and there arrested the offenders and took them into custody. They were, however, discharged the same day or the following morning without being prosecuted; and it is this circumstance, the committee begs to submit, which afterwards encouraged the Catholics to form themselves into unlawful assemblies on a much larger scale, in utter defiance of the law."

12. It is necessary now to follow minutely the course of events between Palm Sunday and Good Friday.

13. Previous to Palm Sunday application was made to the police for a Buddhist procession on Good Friday, but on its being represented to the applicants by the Inspector-General

[* A formula prescribed by Buddha, which is recited by one or more priests with a view to avert evil.
† Religious discourses (of Buddha); *literally*, "that which was spoken."]—*Govt. Printer.*

that, out of respect to Catholic feeling, no license could be granted for Good Friday, they consented to postpone their procession to Saturday; but a license for that day was also refused on the same grounds. The application for Easter Sunday was thereupon urgently pressed, great stress being laid on the fact that the Buddhists had twice consented to forego their processions, and that if a license were refused for Easter Sunday the procession would lose much of its importance, as some particular phase of the moon would have passed. Moved by these representations, the Inspector-General called upon the Roman Catholic bishop on the evening of Palm Sunday, and having explained matters to his lordship, asked whether there would be any objection to the Buddhists being allowed to have a procession on Easter-day. The bishop, who appears to have appreciated the deference shown to Catholic feeling, stated that he had no objection to the proposed procession taking place after 12 o'clock on Easter-day, provided no cause for complaint was given to the Roman Catholics. Permission for a perahęra was accordingly granted to the Buddhists by the Inspector-General of Police.

14. On the 20th March, two days after Palm Sunday, some Buddhists made another application for a license for Good Friday, which was at first refused by the police authorities; but the applicants having assured the Inspector-General that the proposed perahęra would be a very quiet one, consisting merely of women carrying flowers, unaccompanied by music, and that it would take a route which would not bring it near the cathedral, he, thinking such a procession would not be in violation of the arrangement made with the bishop on Palm Sunday, ordered a license to be granted. Unfortunately, the wording of the license, which was written and signed by the Superintendent, Western Province, sanctioned the use of music, and in no way defined the character of the procession; it merely provided that the music should cease within a hundred yards of all churches.

15. As soon as the license was granted, representations were made against it, and the Superintendent, under instructions from the Inspector-General, having made further enquiries, reported that he had reason to believe that if the proposed perahęra on Good Friday took place, it would provoke a serious disturbance; thereupon, on the 21st March, the Inspector-General ordered the license to be cancelled. The Buddhists were very reluctant to give up the license, but after considerable discussion and correspondence, in which the Deputy Queen's Advocate for the Western Province and others took part, it was surrendered and cancelled on the evening before Good Friday. Meantime, the Buddhists appear to have been so elated at obtaining their license, notwithstanding the opposition of the Roman Catholics, that they openly taunted the latter by sending them anonymous letters, three of which—all much to the same effect—have come into our hands. The following is a translation of one of them:—

"You fools! You tried to stop our wedding on the funeral day of that God of yours! You could'nt do it! We *will* come in with the procession on Friday—stop it if you can!"

16. The Catholics, having known that a license had been issued to the Buddhists, having received these taunting letters, and probably not having heard of the withdrawal of the license at a late hour on Thursday, evidently believed that a procession would take place on Good Friday, and that morning saw a large crowd opposite St. Anthony's Church, at Kochchikaḍe, assembled with the avowed intention of forcibly preventing any procession from passing. It is worthy of note that this crowd assembled at a point on the route which it was arranged the procession should take in order to avoid going near the cathedral. This shows that the Roman Catholics were determined not only that no procession should pass their cathedral, but that no procession at all should reach the temple on that day.

17. Owing to rumours of a possible disturbance of the peace, a body of forty or fifty police had been despatched on the morning of Good Friday to the Pettah police-station, to be ready in case of necessity. They were, however, not called out to disperse the mob at Kochchikaḍe, the police officers who went to the spot having contented themselves with assuring the crowd that no Buddhist procession was coming; thereupon the people dispersed, but later in the day the mob re-assembled, as rumours were again spread that a procession was coming; none, however, arrived, and the day passed off without any further disturbance. On this occasion, also, no efforts were made by the police to prosecute the leaders of these illegal assemblies, and this forms a second and stronger protest from the Buddhists in their letter already referred to:—

"The several police-stations," they say, "between Koṭahéna and Mutwal knew, and must have known and seen the several movements and the unlawful assemblies above referred to. Inspector Marshall, who passed the Kochchikaḍe-road more than once on the 23rd, saw the drunken mobs, and it must have been perfectly clear to him that they had assembled there for an unlawful purpose. He spoke to them, but his words simply went to convey the news that the perahęra had stopped. The silence on the part of the police without even a word of warning was an additional encouragement, the committee begs to submit, to the Catholics for the subsequent outburst with a still larger force."

No report of the events of Good Friday was made to the Inspector-General of Police, and nothing of importance appears to have occurred on Saturday.

18. About noon on Easter-day, a body of police consisting of two sergeants and from sixty to seventy constables, were marched from Head-quarters, Maradána, with orders to wait at Koṭahéna station until the Buddhist procession arrived. The sergeant in command was, however, told to use his own discretion should the services of the police be required for any emergency before that time. A little before the detachment left Head-quarters for Koṭahéna, the inspector of that division quitted his district in order to join the perahęra and accompany it from Borella. As rumours were afloat that certain images insulting to the Roman Catholics would be carried in the procession, the police authorities directed that it should be carefully examined before it started, and this was done by the Assistant Superintendent (himself a Roman Catholic) and two inspectors, who satisfied themselves that there was nothing objectionable, and that the rumours were false.

19. About 1·30 P.M. the procession was set in motion: it consisted of several hundreds of men, women and children, and was in charge of two police inspectors and about a dozen constables. It moved on quietly and in order along Maradána, and past the railway bridge towards Skinner's-road South. The Inspector-General of Police, who was driving towards Kotahéna—not, he says, because he anticipated a disturbance, but because he thought it right to be on the spot in view of the rumours which had been circulated—passed the procession near the railway bridge, and saw nothing objectionable or disorderly.

20. In the meantime matters were becoming serious at Kotahéna. The Roman Catholic services in the morning had been concluded, and the congregation had dispersed, and all was apparently quiet. A little before one o'clock the neighbourhood was alarmed by the sudden and violent ringing of the cathedral bell, followed at once by the ringing of the bells in all the Roman Catholic churches in the neighbourhood, and without delay, as if at a preconcerted signal, large bodies of men ready armed with clubs, and marked on the forehead and back with white crosses, began to assemble at St. Lucia's corner. The police sergeant in charge of the force which had proceeded to Kotahéna marched his men to the corner, where he found a large crowd, numbering, he says, over a thousand men, all armed and marked as above described. He states that he endeavoured to persuade the crowd to disperse, but being unsuccessful in this he, after some delay, sent a message to the inspectors in charge of the perahera.

21. Meantime, as the procession advanced, reports were brought from the front that a crowd was gathering at Kotahéna; and at the canal-bridge on Skinner's-road, less than half a-mile from St. Lucia's, rumours reached them that disturbances had begun, and that a Buddhist priest had been assaulted. The procession, which up to this time was unarmed and unprotected, naturally became excited, and the male portion rushed into a timber yard close by and took possession of whatever sticks and weapons they could find. Major Tranchell, who at that time was nearly a quarter of a mile in front of the procession, witnessed at the corner of Messenger-street a serious assault committed on an unoffending native by a band of roughs. Hurrying on to Kotahéna for the assistance of the police, he found St. Lucia's corner in possession of a large and excited mob of Roman Catholics, and the police scattered about amongst them, and thus unable to act as a body. The Inspector-General endeavoured to induce the crowd to disperse, but finding them obstinate, he gathered a few police together and went back to arrest the progress of the Buddhist procession. It had, however, by this time passed Messenger-street, and (apparently urged on by the inspectors of police who accompanied it) was advancing in a very excited state. Seeing it was not possible to induce the procession to turn back, Major Tranchell made another attempt to persuade the Catholics to disperse. On their refusing to do so, he ordered the police to charge them. The Catholic mob met the charge with a shower of brickbats and stones, and drove the police back in great disorder. Finding himself unable to cope with the mob, Major Tranchell despatched a mounted messenger to call in the aid of the military, while he endeavoured, with the force at his command, to keep the two bodies apart as much as possible. The front ranks of each party, which were now close upon each other, broke through the line of police and commenced a hand-to-hand fight. The Buddhists, in order to force a passage, attempted to drive their carts through the Catholic mob, but the latter seized and killed the bullocks, broke up the carts, and burned them and their contents on the public highway. During a lull in the fight, Assistant Superintendent Holland succeeded in persuading a body of the Catholics to follow him to the cathedral, where one of the Roman Catholic Fathers addressed them, and the crowd began to separate. A heavy shower of rain, and the appearance of a mounted military officer assisted in dispersing the men, and by the time a detachment of the Royal Dublin Fusiliers arrived all actual fighting had ceased, and the Buddhists had retired as far as Green Lodge.

22. Stone-throwing was, however, still going on between a party of Buddhists in the temple enclosure and a number of Catholics on the road. The military quickly cleared the streets, the crowd dispersed, and order was restored. Military guards were placed at the convent and vihára, and remained there until relieved on the following morning by the police.

23. During the riot many persons received severe injuries, one Buddhist being mortally wounded, and thirty persons, including twelve constables, so seriously hurt as to necessitate their being admitted to hospital: this number was probably only a small proportion of the total number injured.

24. In many parts of the city considerable alarm was felt during the night, which, however, passed off quietly.

25. On Monday, 26th March, two Buddhist processions were expected to arrive in Colombo—one from Koratota, a village ten or twelve miles distant on the Ratnapura-road, and the other from Péliyagoda, which lies just beyond the Bridge-of-Boats. Early in the morning, Major Tranchell started with an armed body of forty or fifty picked men of the police for Kotahéna, which place he found in a very excited state, a Roman Catholic priest having just been assaulted. The bells were ringing, and a crowd fast assembling armed with clubs and prepared for a fight. Intelligence there reached him that the two processions then on their way to the city were fully armed, and bent on encountering the Catholics, and thinking it wiser not to risk a renewal of the disturbances of the previous day, he again called in the aid of the military. In a short time two companies of the Royal Dublin Fusiliers arrived on the ground, one of which was stationed at Kotahéna to keep the streets clear, while Major Tranchell proceeded with the other to stop the Koratota procession, leaving a body of armed police at the bottom of Layard's Broadway to maintain order along the road. He found it halted at the Urugodawatta bridge, and having drawn up the troops in a garden on one side of the bridge, he endeavoured to persuade the priest in charge of the procession, which was unarmed and accompanied by a large number of women and children, to take the people back to their villages. In the meantime Captain Hansard (Superintendent of Police) and Mr. Boake, (Justice of the Peace) had also arrived, and they used their efforts in

the same direction. The priest expressed his willingness to retire, merely asking to be allowed time to give rest and refreshment to the women and children. After a while the rear of the procession began to retire, but unfortunately some Colombo roughs, who had mixed with the crowd at the head of it tried to push on, and as they became violent and made an attempt to drive forward the carts, Major Tranchell called up the military, who effectually stopped the advance by upsetting the carts into a paddy field below. The procession then returned to the village.

26. In the meantime, the Péliyagoda procession crossed the Bridge-of-Boats, and had come to a halt at the junction of Layard's Broadway with Grandpass road. Here they were met by Mr. Mason, the police magistrate, who states that the persons composing it were armed with clubs, swords, and other weapons, about a dozen men being dressed as soldiers in old uniform, and armed with muskets, which were afterwards found to be loaded. Mr. Mason, thinking it necessary to make a show of force, drove down Layard's Broadway and found the body of armed police at the bottom of the street. He tells us that the inspector to whom he applied for assistance informed him that he could not rely on his men to use their arms if required to do so. He accordingly drove to Kotahéna, and twenty-five men of the Royal Dublin Fusiliers having been placed at his disposal, he took five of them in his carriage, and accompanied by Lieutenant and Adjutant Thomas, returned to Grandpass. The remaining twenty men were directed to follow at once. As soon as Mr. Mason and Lieutenant Thomas reached the procession, the men dressed as soldiers were called upon to lay down their arms, which they at once did, and the rest of the crowd quietly gave up their sticks and other weapons without the slightest resistance. Three cartloads of stones which had been brought were also taken and secured. On the arrival of the twenty men of the Royal Dublin Fusiliers the leaders of the procession consented to turn back, only asking that they might be accompanied by some one in case of being attacked on the road. The Justices of the Peace, Mr. Mason, Mr. Boake, and Mr. Morgan, each took charge of a party and accompanied it as far as the Bridge-of-Boats. Order having been thus restored, military guards were posted at the temple and convent, and were relieved by the police on the following morning.

II.—Statement of the Causes which led to the Riots.

27. It is generally admitted that of late years there has been a great revival of Buddhism, and that religious controversies between Christians and Buddhists have greatly increased. This is doubtless owing to the facilities for printing and publishing which now exist, and to the circulation among Buddhists of anti-Christian papers published in England, America, and India, portions of which are often translated into Sinhalese. Arguments have been employed and language used calculated to irritate and inflame,—not perhaps so much those who read or hear them, as those whom they reach second-hand, exaggerated, and distorted.

28. We have already referred to the part taken in these controversies by Migettuwatte Unnanse, and though his attacks have been directed against Christianity in general, there seems little doubt that the Roman Catholics have been irritated by them more than other sections of Christianity. This is probably due to an excessive zeal for their religion, amounting almost to fanaticism. Of this feeling, which has been exemplified in the recent riots, and alluded to by more than one witness, we would record our strong condemnation. The Roman Catholics generally appear to think that any supposed insult to their religion should be resisted by force, and, if necessary, to the death. How such a feeling arose, and by whom it has been fostered, it is difficult to say; but we think that the character of the Roman Catholic priesthood with the public in this matter is most seriously at stake. It is generally admitted that the influence the priests are known to exercise over the people is used on behalf of law and order, and in obedience to the civil power; and it therefore behoves the Roman Catholic authorities to do their utmost to discourage and eradicate so dangerous a feeling as that indicated.

29. We have already alluded to the proximity of the Buddhist temple to the Roman Catholic cathedral, and have shown how the jealousy and anger of the Roman Catholics were gradually aroused by the long continuance of the Buddhist festival, extending as it did into Easter-week. It was unfortunate that the Buddhist processions were arranged to take place during that period. We are, however, of opinion that if the police authorities had exercised a little discretion, satisfactory arrangements could have been made to accommodate both parties without arousing serious ill-feeling. But the vacillating conduct of the police in regard to the issuing of licenses had the effect of irritating both Catholics and Buddhists.

30. The Roman Catholics were told on the 6th March that no licenses had been issued for Palm Sunday, and that whoever first applied would get one. They made immediate application, but no license for that day was given to them, and subsequently one was granted to the Buddhists. Again, notwithstanding the distinct assurance of the Inspector-General of Police to the Roman Catholic bishop that no license should be given to the Buddhists for Good Friday, one was afterwards issued and only recalled at the last minute. This naturally exasperated the Roman Catholics, and, coupled with the taunts of the Buddhists, led directly to the illegal assemblies on Good Friday.

31. The Roman Catholics being once annoyed and irritated, were prepared to take offence at anything. They began by alleging that the Buddhist perahera slackened pace and the people shouted "sadu" in derision just in front of their cathedral and churches, and—the readiness of the Catholics to believe that at every procession insults were being directed against their religion—was eagerly snatched at and made the most of by designing and ill-disposed persons. Thus, all kinds of reports got abroad and obtained credence. It was at last rumoured that in the large perahera to take place on Easter-day there would be carried monkeys nailed to crosses, and other gross caricatures insulting to the Christian religion. This was firmly believed by the ignorant masses, and though we have shown that there were no grounds whatever for such a belief, we have no doubt that it was this conviction on the part of the Catholics which led to the determined attack on the Buddhist procession on Easter-day.

32. It is worthy of note that the priest, Migettuwatte, is convinced that the discomfiture experienced by the Buddhists on Easter Sunday is due to the fact that he had not sufficiently bribed the police inspector of the division, having only sent him a sum of Rs. 50, when a sum of Rs. 100 was demanded, nominally as a loan. He considers that the police led the perahęra for the purpose of seeing the Buddhists defeated; but the Roman Catholics are equally incensed with the police, because, they say, the police protected the Buddhists and attacked them.

III.—General Remarks on the Riots.

33. From what has been gathered during our enquiries, we are convinced that the Buddhist perahęra started from Borella on Easter day without the least intention of offering insult to the Roman Catholics, and certainly without any anticipation of a fight, and also that they carried with them nothing of an objectionable character.

34. Much stress is laid by the Roman Catholics on the fact that a figure of Mahabamba (Brahma), carried in the Palm Sunday procession, was the cause of great offence to them, and an insult to their religion; the figure, though that of a man, being, it is alleged, dressed as a woman to represent the Virgin Mary. After careful consideration, we are of opinion that no such insult was intended by the Buddhists. This figure had been carried in several processions previously without the least imputation that it was intended as an insult to Christianity, and we consider the complaint of the Roman Catholics on this point groundless.

35. We have no hesitation in stating that we believe the illegal assemblies, both on Good Friday and Easter-day, were thoroughly organized and previously arranged by the Roman Catholics, with the express intention of attacking Buddhist processions. The ringing of the church bell on the Sunday was evidently a preconcerted signal, and we think that in this matter blame attaches to the Roman Catholic authorities in allowing the bell to be rung, and in failing to show the least inclination to hand over those who rang it to justice.

36. It appears to be recognized by all Roman Catholics that the ringing of their church bell, at an unusual hour and in an unusual manner, is a signal of danger and a call to assemble, and yet we are told that, except at one church, no control is placed over the bell, and that access is open to anyone who thinks fit to raise an alarm. Such a state of things, if it exists, is clearly undesirable, and we think that in all Roman Catholic churches some sort of control should be placed over the bell; or, at any rate, that the authorities should be held responsible when it is made the means of assembling a mob of rioters to create a disturbance. It is impossible to suppose that a body of influential Catholic priests and laymen, with their retainers and servants, could neither prevent the ringing of the bell, nor identify the persons who actually rang it; and the fact that these persons have not been handed over to the police for exemplary punishment is, we consider, a standing reproach to the Roman Catholic authorities at Kotahéna.

IV.—Remarks on the inability of the Police to maintain Order.

37. In considering this question, we are of opinion that the police force of Colombo should have been able successfully to cope with the rioters, and that had proper precautions been taken at the outset, the necessity for calling out the military would probably not have arisen.

38. We are struck by the manner in which reports appear to be made by the subordinate officers of the police. They are, as a rule, verbal and informal, and the diaries filled up daily by sergeants in charge of stations are, if intended to be a complete record of the events of the week, very unsatisfactory. There is nothing on record in the police office to show that anything unusual took place on Good Friday.

39. We have experienced considerable difficulty in gaining information regarding the police arrangements, owing to the absence from the Island during our enquiry of Captain Hansard. As Superintendent of Police, Western Province, he was responsible for proper arrangements being made for the peace of the town, and would doubtless have been able to give us much information on the subject of our enquiry. He appears at the time of these disturbances to have been hourly expecting to leave the Island, and having broken up his establishment, was living eight miles out of Colombo. It consequently happened that he was absent on Easter-day, and knew nothing of the riot till too late to be of use.

40. The police arrangements on Easter Sunday—for which, we have said, the Superintendent was responsible—appears to us to have been, from the commencement, defective. On that morning a large body of police was sent to Kotahéna, merely, it is stated, as a matter of precaution, and at the same time the inspector of the division to which the force was sent was allowed to quit his station for Head-quarters in order to accompany the procession to his district, by which arrangement the force sent to Kotahéna was left without any officer superior to a sergeant, and neither of the two sergeants present had sufficient ability or influence over their men to cope with any serious emergency. This is clear from what actually took place. The senior sergeant was aware that the crowd was collecting, armed for the purpose of committing a serious breach of the peace, and yet he informs us that he did not consider himself justified in attempting to disperse the mob, or in making arrests—as to use his own words—"everyone was at that time quiet"; while the other sergeant states he was afraid to interfere in any way lest the police should be afterwards charged with commencing the disturbance. Thus the opportunity the police had of dispersing the rioters before their numbers became very great was lost.

41. We would here state that, whilst condemning the police arrangements generally, we consider that as soon as Major Tranchell arrived on the spot and took charge, he did all that it was possible for him to do under the circumstances with the material at his command.

V.—Remarks on the necessity for calling in the aid of the Military.

42. We are of opinion that the Inspector-General of Police acted discreetly in calling in the aid of the military at the time he did; in fact, it was the only course that could then have

been pursued. The step was not taken until the police had been defeated by the mob and all confidence in them completely lost.

43. Though actual fighting had ceased when the troops arrived, order was far from being restored. Stone-throwing was still going on at the temple, and the Buddhists had only retired a short distance down Skinner's-road. The riot might have broken out again at any moment. Major Tranchell attributes the cessation of hostilities to the knowledge of both Catholics and Buddhists that the military had been sent for, and there is no doubt that public confidence was not restored until the scene of the riots had been occupied by the troops. The calling out of the military had also, we consider, much moral effect in preventing lawlessness throughout the city on Sunday and Monday nights.

44. It is possible that the two processions which arrived in Colombo on Monday, the 26th March, might have been turned back by any well-known and influential civil officer, especially if supported by the presence of a body of armed police. The Koratoṭa perahęra was unarmed, and in every way an orderly and peaceable body. The Pęliyagoḍa procession, it is true, was armed with clubs and other weapons, and came in, no doubt, with the intention of fighting the Catholics if they met with opposition from them, and perhaps even of attacking them should they come across them, in revenge for the Buddhist defeat on the previous day.

45. We are of opinion, however, that in neither case did the Buddhists intend seriously to resist constituted authority, though the presence of some drunken roughs in both processions rendered a show of force desirable, and, perhaps, necessary; but in view of the alarming disturbances of the previous day, and the serious consequences which must have resulted from a second collision, it was better not to trust to the unaided efforts of the police, but to secure, beyond all doubt, the public peace; and we consider that Major Tranchell adopted the safest course in again calling out the troops on the 26th March.

46. In conclusion, we would sum up as follows. The causes which led to the riots are, in our opinion—

I.—The proximity of the Buddhist temple and the Roman Catholic cathedral at Koṭahéna.

II.—The gradual revival of Buddhism and the controversies consequent thereon.

III.—The protracted nature of the Buddhist festival, and the grand scale in which it was carried out by so bitter an opponent of the Christian religion as Migettuwatte Unnanse.

IV.—The continuance of the Buddhist festival throughout Holy Week.

V.—The spreading of false reports regarding insults to the Christian religion, which were believed by the Roman Catholics, and greatly exasperated them.

VI.—The apparent inability of the Roman Catholic authorities to control the more ignorant of their flock.

VII.—The indiscretion and indecision displayed by the police in granting, withholding, and cancelling licenses.

VIII.—The insufficiency of the information possessed by the police, and defective arrangements made by them, as well as their neglect to properly vindicate the law on the first appearance of disorder; and their failing to realize, till too late, the magnitude of the disturbance on Easter-day.

47. As regards the inability of the police to maintain order, we consider that had they been in possession of the information they ought to have had, and had the arrangements been placed in proper hands and skilfully directed, the police force of Colombo is sufficiently strong to have been able to maintain order; but we are of opinion that after the riots had been allowed to develop, the police were unequal to cope with the rioters, and that Major Tranchell was fully justified in calling for the aid of the military, both on the 25th and 26th March.

48. We consider that the thanks of the Government and of the public were fully earned by the military for the prompt and efficient manner in which they quelled the disturbance, and for the discipline they displayed on the two occasions when their services were required.

F. R. SAUNDERS,
Government Agent, Western Province.

J. DUNCAN, LIEUT.-COLONEL,
Comdg. 1st Bat. Royal Dublin Fusiliers.

J. H. DE SARAM,
District Judge, Kurunęgala.

Colombo Kachcheri, 29th May, 1883.

APPENDIX.

CORRESPONDENCE ON THE SUBJECT OF THE ISSUE OF LICENSES.

1.

The Rev. J. MASSILLAMANY to the INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE.

Kotahéna, 6th March, 1883.

SIR,—EVERY year on Palm Sunday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday we have our sacred processions—from time immemorial—through St. Lucia's and Wall streets; and it is rumoured that the Buddhists intend to make their religious processions on the same days through the same streets. I do not know if this be true or not, but if they do this and so disturb our sacred processions and services, I am afraid that riot, fighting, and bloodshed will probably result among the people, and no attempt on the part of the priests will be able to prevent such a dire scene; and we, the Missionaries of St. Lucia's cathedral, shall not be responsible for it. I therefore take the opportunity of apprising the authorities of the rumour, to put them on guard against any possible evil that may ensue.

I am, &c.,

J. MASSILLAMANY,
Missionary Apostolic.

2.

MEMO. from the INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE to the SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, Western Province.

Colombo, 6th March, 1883.

HAVE any licenses been given out yet to anyone to have processions on Good Friday, Easter Sunday, and Palm Sunday? If not, please inform me if any are applied for, as I fear there will be some trouble about them.

E. CREASY,
for Inspector-General.

3.

MEMO. from the SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, Western Province, to the INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE.

No. 2,945. Colombo, 6th March, 1883.

No licenses have been granted for processions on Good Friday, Easter Sunday, or Palm Sunday.

L. HOLLAND,
for Superintendent, Western Province.

4.

The INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE, to the Rev. J. MASSILLAMANY.

No. 978. Colombo, 6th March, 1883.

SIR,—WITH reference to your letter of to-day's date, I have the honour to inform you that no one has as yet applied for a license to have a procession on the days you name. I may here remind you that a license is necessary, and whoever applies first will obtain it and receive legal protection from the police during the time the procession is being carried on.

I am, &c.,

E. CREASY,
for Inspector-General.

5.

The REV. J. MASSILLAMANY to the INSPECTOR-GENERAL.

Kotahéna, 7th March, 1883.

SIR,—WITH reference to your letter of yesterday, reminding me that a license is necessary for the usual processions on Palm Sunday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday, I beg that you will send per bearer a license permitting our sacred processions on those days through St. Lucia's and Wall streets.

I am, &c.,

J. MASSILLAMANY,
Missionary Apostolic.

6.

REFERRED to the Superintendent of Police, Western Province.

No. 990. Colombo, 7th March, 1883.

Please delay issuing a license till the Inspector-General returns to Colombo. The matter of processions is, I believe, at present before His Excellency the Governor.

G. C. TRANCHELL,
for Inspector-General.

7.

MEMO. from the ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE to the INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE.

No. 3,401. 15th March, 1883.

THE Inspector-General having returned to Colombo, I have the honour to return papers, and to enquire whether licenses may now be granted.

L. HOLLAND,
Assistant Superintendent.

8.

MEMO. from the INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE to the SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, Western Province.

15th March, 1883.

PLEASE ascertain personally what grounds the Roman Catholic priests have for apprehending the Buddhists will interfere with their intended processions.

E. F. TRANCHELL,
Acting Inspector-General.

9.

MEMO. from the SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, Western Province, to the INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE.

16th March, 1883.

I VISITED St. Lucia's last evening. The Rev. Fathers have no definite information of any intention on the part of the Buddhists to disturb the Catholic processions of Holy Week and Easter. Father Massillamany's letter of the 6th instant, addressed to you, was written upon rumour. As you are aware, a Buddhist festival is actively going on at Koṭahéna. I met a procession at 6·30 P.M. last evening, for which I know of no license having been granted. The 23rd instant, Good Friday, is full moon, a favourite time for Buddhist displays. These circumstances may have given rise to the apprehension of conflicting processions.

L. HOLLAND,
for Superintendent.

10.

Permission is hereby granted to James Mirando to cause tom-tom to be beaten along the road from 3rd Division, Maradana, to Koṭahéna Buddhist temple, on the 18th instant, from 1 P.M. to 6 P.M., on the occasion of a religious procession, provided that the public peace is not disturbed thereby.

Given under my hand, at Colombo, this 16th March, 1883.

A. HANSARD,
Superintendent of Police.

11.

MEMO. from the ACTING INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE to the SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, Western Province.

Colombo, 17th March, 1883.

PLEASE take every precaution to avoid anything like a collision between the Roman Catholics and the Buddhists. If the former have, as is stated, been in the habit of having the procession on Palm Sunday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday for many years past, the Buddhists must forego any procession on those days. Please see the chief persons concerned and persuade them against any disturbance. They should be seen at once, as to-morrow is, I believe, Palm Sunday.

E. F. TRANCHELL,
Acting Inspector-General.

P.S.—Please let me be informed if there is any probability of a disturbance.

12.

MEMO. from the ACTING INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE to the SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, Western Province.

17th March, 1883.

ON second thoughts, I think we had better not allow any Buddhist processions on Palm Sunday, Good Friday or Easter Sunday.

E. F. TRANCHELL,
Acting Inspector-General.

13.

Mr. S. P. D. GOONEWARDANA to the SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, Western Province.

Colombo, 20th March, 1883.

SIR,—I BEG that your honor will be pleased to grant me license to carry on a procession with flowers on the roads at Pettah, Kochchikade, and Lunupokana to Koṭahéna temple. This will be accompanied only by tom-tom use according to the Buddhist faith, being full moon day, the 23rd of March; and to commence at 8 A.M. and stop at 11 A.M., and which will be performed in a manner not to disturb the public peace in any way.

I beg, &c.,
S. P. D. GOONEWARDANA.

From Front-street and Keyzer-street corner along Keyzer-street to Town Hall; by St. John's-street, Seashore-street and Korteboam-street; by Mutukristna-street, past Koṭahéna Police station, to Buddhist temple. The flowers are to be carried by women.

14.

No. 37. 20th March, 1883.

GRANTED by order of the Inspector-General from 8 o'clock A.M. till 11 o'clock A.M. Tom-toms to cease 100 yards on each side of all churches.

Cancelled. A. H., 22-3-83.

A. HANSARD,
Superintendent.

To the Kotahéna Inspector—

Who will see that the route and the instructions are carried out.

A. HANSARD,
Superintendent.

15.

From E. F. TRANCHELL, Esq., to A. HANSARD, Esq.

Colombo, 20th March, 1883.

MY DEAR HANSARD,—Inspector Marshall and my Head Clerk both represent that there is almost sure to be a disturbance if the Buddhist procession is allowed to take place on Good Friday. Will you kindly make further enquiry and confer with me to-morrow on the subject.

Yours, &c.,
E. F. TRANCHELL.

16.

From A. HANSARD, Esq., to E. F. TRANCHELL, Esq.

MY DEAR TRANCHELL,—FROM enquiries made, I have reason to believe that the procession for which a pass has been granted for Good Friday to the Buddhists will provoke a serious disturbance.

A. HANSARD.

17.

MEMO. from the INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE to the SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, Western Province.

Memo. 1,173. 21st March, 1883.

IF you have granted a license for a procession on Good Friday, please recall it, and warn the persons concerned that they will be prosecuted if they attempt to carry out any procession on Good Friday after this prohibition.

E. F. TRANCHELL,
Acting Inspector-General.

18.

MEMO. from the SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, Western Province, to the ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE.

Andris Perera has just been here and promises to return the pass immediately. He also promises to send out word to stop arrangements for the procession.

21st March, 1883. A. HANSARD.

19.

MEMO. from the ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE to the SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, Western Province.

Andris Perera has not yet returned the permit.

L. HOLLAND,
Assistant Superintendent.

22nd March, 1883.

20.

MEMO. from the SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, Western Province, to the ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE.

The permit has been returned to me.

22nd March, 1883. A. HANSARD.

21.

APPLICATION from Mr. U. D. S. GUNESEKERE for a permit.

Colombo, 20th March, 1883.

I BEG to apply for the permit written on the other side.

U. D. S. GUNESEKERE.

Permit referred to.

PERMIT is hereby given to Mr. U. D. S. Gunesekere, of Maradana, on behalf of the Buddhist community, to carry on procession, as usual, with tom-tom music, and other kinds of native plays, &c., from Borella to Kotahéna temple, on Sunday, 25th instant, after 12 noon.

Colombo, March, 1883.

22.

MEMO. from the SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, Western Province, to Inspector GUNERATNE.

No. 38.—GRANTED by order of the Inspector-General from half-past 1 P.M. till half-past 4 P.M.

20th March, 1883. A. HANSARD.

23.

Mr. A. PERERA to the SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, Western Province.

SIR,—I REGRET to inform you that Mr. Gunewardene has been rather selfish and has obtained permission only for the 25th instant to carry on his procession. There are other processions ready for the 24th, and from 26th to 31st. I am sorry to trouble you; however, I can't help. If the license which you have already granted to Migettuwatte priest has been cancelled, I beg that one will be granted to these people: they are very much disheartened. I enclose an advertisement already sent round.

I am, &c.,
A. PERERA.

TRANSLATION of Advertisement referred to.

A Procession from Koratoṭa.

A grand procession with offerings will be prepared at Kaḍuwela on Monday, 26th March, at 6 A.M. This procession will reach Dipáduttama vihára, at Koṭahéna, about 12 o'clock, through Urugoḍawatta, Grandpass-street, and Green-street.

It is requested that all the faithful men and women will accompany it and be partakers of merits.

Everyone in this quarter must assemble at Urugoḍawatta.

Let it be known that thieves, drunkards, and disorderly persons, if found in this procession, will be given to Government authorities for due punishment.

24.

MEMO. from the INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE to the SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, Western Province.

21st March, 1883.

PLEASE prohibit any Buddhist procession whatsoever on Good Friday or any on Easter Sunday before 1·30 P.M. Bearer can be granted one for Monday, the 26th, from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M.

E. F. TRANCHELL,
Acting Inspector-General.

25.

Mr. ANDREW PERERA to the SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, Western Province.

Colombo, 22nd March, 1883.

SIR,—ON Sunday last we told you distinctly that we had no intention of getting up a perahera for Friday, but Gunewardane Arachchi, of Pettah, had made arrangements for one of a quiet nature. You had the kindness to grant him a license, since which I find that the Roman Catholics have been sending in several petitions to stop the procession. Although their organ, the *Catholic Messenger*, says that the Catholics and Buddhists are not such fools to fight, yet I find they have been posting notices stating that that there will be a severe fight on Friday. This or anything does not intimidate the Buddhists. However, as in his 45 years' preaching our lord Buddha never spake one word encouraging war, even to spread his religion, and never caused to shed one drop of blood on his account, and as your good self, many of our Roman Catholic friends, and even high Government officials have been asking us not to have any perahera on Friday, we have given it up entirely. Mohottiwatta priest announced this last night. The bearer, Mr. de Soyza, wishes to obtain a license for a perahera which is to come from beyond the Bridge-of-Boats, and I beg you will kindly give him one.

Yours obediently,
ANDREW PERERA.

26.

Mr. U. D. S. GUNESEKERE to the SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, Western Province.

Colombo, 22nd March, 1883.

SIR,—I BEG that I may be allowed, on payment, the services of one sergeant and twelve European constables to accompany a Buddhist procession from Borella to Koṭahéna on the 25th instant.

I beg, &c.,
U. D. S. GUNESEKERE.

27.

MEMO. from the SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, Western Province, to the HEAD-QUARTER INSPECTOR.

INFORM Mr. Gunesekere that we will take such precautions as we consider necessary to prevent a breach of the peace without a payment.

22nd March, 1883. A. HANSARD.

28.

The Rev. D. G. FERNANDO to Assistant Superintendent L. HOLLAND.

St. Lucia's Cathedral,
22nd March, 1883.

DEAR MR. HOLLAND,—IN answer to your kind letter, I have to tell you that our procession does not commence before 4 P.M. generally, and closes about 7 P.M. The route to be taken by the procession will be the usual one, viz., Wall-street and St. Lucia's-street. You need not fear; the Catholics will not pass in procession before the Buddhist temple. I may mention to you, last Sunday some serious row would have taken place owing to the Buddhists having carried in procession a statue in a long robe in the attitude of

carrying a cross, though there was no cross. Now, the Buddhists have no business to provoke Catholics that way. What I fear is, that if Catholics are provoked that way, there will be no knowing where and when a row may take place.

Yours, &c.,
D. G. FERNANDO,
Missionary Apostolic.

29.

Colombo, 22nd March, 1883.

License is hereby granted to the Reverend Fathers of the Catholic Mission for the customary Catholic procession on Good Friday, 1883.

A. HANSARD,
Superintendent, Western Province.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE DEPUTY QUEEN'S ADVOCATE.

30.

MR. MARTINES PERERA to R. H. MORGAN, Esq., Deputy Queen's Advocate, Colombo.

HONOURED SIR,—WE humbly beg to bring to your honor's worthy information, that, under the management of (1) Migettuwatte Unnanse, of Koṭahéna; (2) Mathes, of the Fort of Colombo; (3) the furniture dealer named Andris Perera, Arachchi, of Pettah, some religious ceremonies under the Buddhist denomination, being now prepared to make a very disturbing procession through the town of Colombo, and very likely it would give room for a dreadful outbreak of some quarrels and fightings between the Roman Catholic population and Buddhists.

Therefore may it please your honor to order to take measures for the protection of the peace and to put a stop for such dangerous undertaking.

(Signed in Sinhalese),
MARTINES PERERA.

Colombo, 21st March, 1883.

31.

R. H. MORGAN, Esq., Deputy Queen's Advocate, to the SUPERINTENDENT, Western Province.

Deputy Queen's Advocate's Office,
Colombo, 21st March, 1883.

No. 83.

SIR,—I HAVE the honor to request that you will be good enough to inform me whether your department has granted any permits for processions of Buddhists to Koṭahéna on Good Friday.

I am, &c.,
R. H. MORGAN,
Deputy Queen's Advocate.

32.

The SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, Western Province, to the DEPUTY QUEEN'S ADVOCATE.

Colombo, 22nd March, 1883.

SIR,—IN reply to your letter No. 83 of the 21st instant, I have the honor to inform you that no permit for Buddhist processions has been granted for Good Friday.

I am, &c.,
A. HANSARD,
Superintendent of Police.

MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE.

33.

The LORD BISHOP of Colombo to the INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE.

Colombo, 22nd March, 1883.

MY DEAR SIR,—IT is too late for me to write in any official way, but it may not be too late for me to secure, through your kind consideration, special attention for the interests of the congregation of St. James's Church, Koṭahéna, who are sadly annoyed and interrupted by the noises connected with the Buddhist temple in Koṭahéna; and, as I understand are likely, unless strong restrictions are placed on the tom-toms, etc., to be still more seriously annoyed to-morrow (Good Friday) and on Easter-day, may I beg you to give such orders as are possible for their protection, especially to-morrow, and up to mid-day on Sunday. Hoping that you will excuse my writing to you in this informal way,

I remain, &c.,
R. S. COLOMBO.

34.

The INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE to the LORD BISHOP of Colombo.

Colombo, 22nd March, 1883.

MY DEAR SIR,—I TRUST the congregation of St. James's Church will not be subjected to any annoyance to-morrow, as there will be no Buddhist procession. There will, however, be one round their own cathedral by the Roman Catholics between 4 and 7 P.M. In consideration of the Buddhists foregoing their much-coveted procession to-morrow, it being full moon, and a great day with them, I have consented to their having one on Easter Sunday between 1·30 and 4 P.M., and to this I have ascertained the Roman Catholic Bishop does not object. The police will take every precaution to prevent any collisions between the professors of the different creeds.

Yours very faithfully,
E. F. TRANCHELL.

NOTICE—19*th February*, 1883.

THE purport of the notice with the bestowal of merit to all the inhabitants of Maradána, who have adorned themselves with the ornaments of faith, observance of moral precepts, and many other virtues, and particularly to Henry William De Silva (Division Officer), Magnia Carolis Mirando, Edirimuni Cornelis Silva, and Kalinga Arnolis Silva, is as follows :—

It is proposed to hold the "Nétra Piṇkamma"—the festival of setting the eyes in the image of Buddha—in the Dipaduttama viháre, at Koṭahéna, Colombo, from the 8th February to the 31st March, 1883, the work in the image-house having now been completed at a cost of about Rs. 3,000. The book sent herewith will give an idea of the workmanship of the temporary buildings erected for the purpose It is proposed to engage the services of Buddhist priests of the Siamese and the Amarapura sects, in order to hold religious discourses expounding the three-fold nidána (the remote, the middle, and the near), of our blessed king Buddha, the chief of the three worlds; reading the "Diksangiya," the "Angóttara Sangiya," and the "Játaka-pota"; and reciting "pirit" on three occasions. Therefore, gentlemen are asked to make what offerings they please towards defraying the cost and providing the priestly requisites, and attain the bliss of release in heaven through the merit so acquired.

The 25th March, 1883, is the day assigned for the inhabitants of your village to bring morning and mid-day meals. On that day there will be fifty priests, exclusive of those priests who may come to the temple as visitors.

This notice is given with the consent of the venerable priest, Mohoṭṭiwatté Gunananda, incumbent of the said viháre, by the principal donors

W. D. A. TILAKARATNE.
W. G. DON ANDRAYOS.

V.—1883.

FISH-CURING IN CEYLON.

MEMORANDUM

BY

THE HON. THE AUDITOR-GENERAL,

ON THE SUBJECT OF

A PROPOSAL TO ISSUE SALT AT REDUCED PRICES FOR FISH-CURING.

Ordered by His Excellency the Lieut.-Governor to be Printed.

Colombo:

FRANK LUKER, ACTING GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1883.

FISH-CURING IN CEYLON.

The Hon. the AUDITOR-GENERAL to the Hon. the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

No. 337. Audit Office, Colombo, 26th June, 1883.

SIR,—IN continuation of the remarks made by me in the 26th paragraph of my report on the accounts of the Colony for 1879, I have now the honour to forward herewith, for the consideration of His Excellency the Governor, a memorandum on the subject of fish-curing in Ceylon, wherein I recommend that salt for the curing of fish be issued, subject to certain restrictions necessary for the protection of the revenue, at a reduced rate.

2. The question is one that, I submit, is of very great importance to the people of the Island, and I see no reason to doubt the success of the scheme proposed, which is, in all essential respects, similar to that now in force in the Madras Presidency. Success, however, must depend very largely on the amount of attention to the details of the scheme that may be given by the revenue officers of the districts in which it may be tried.

3. To afford a fair means of testing the scheme, it must be tried on a scale sufficient to prove its suitability and popularity, or the reverse; and although it may perhaps be considered advisable to try it at one or two places only at first, I would submit that should the result in those places not prove unquestionably satisfactory, the scheme should not, on that account alone, be considered as altogether unsuitable to the circumstances of the Island, but should receive such further trial as may be practicable.

4. I have purposely omitted to advert in my memorandum to a development that may be looked for, should Government sanction the issue of salt at a reduced rate for fish-curing, viz., that if there appears to be a fair prospect of remunerative return from money invested, capitalists will be prepared to undertake the curing of fish in their own private establishments, and to pay the cost of the necessary staff of excise officers, on condition that they be granted a drawback on all salt used by them in curing operations. Establishments of this nature have been opened and successfully worked in India, and I see no reason why similar establishments should not be worked at a profit in Ceylon.

5. If care were taken to restrict the privilege to respectable persons able to pay for the services of such Government officials as would be required for supervision, and having suitable premises for the business, I think the revenue would be protected well enough. It would certainly be worth while to run a little risk in order to increase the food supply of the people, and to establish a useful industry on a satisfactory basis.

6. I have failed to ascertain the quantity of salt required for the proper curing of a given quantity of fish, and it is, I think, only by the experience that would be gained, if the proposals I have made be carried into effect, that any reliable data on this point can be obtained. The nearest approach to a solution of this difficulty that I have been able to arrive at is the information afforded to me by Mr. Rundell, Deputy Commissioner of Salt Revenue, Madras, who, in the course of conversation, told me that in India the weight of salt used varies from one-eighth to half of the weight of the fish to be cured. In Scotland, I understand, 30 lbs. of salt is considered to be sufficient for one ton of fish, but as the salt there used is of a very superior quality to that obtainable in Ceylon, and the curing is not effected by salt alone, I am still unable to come to any conclusion on the point that would be of any practical use in a consideration of the question now submitted by me.

I am, &c.,
W. H. RAVENSCROFT,
Auditor-General and Controller of Revenue.

MEMORANDUM on the subject of Fish-curing in Ceylon.

ALL those who have considered the question are, I think, agreed that the sea fisheries in Ceylon, especially in localities far removed from the few large towns or centres of population, require some stimulus in order that the large quantities of fish that frequent the shores of the Island may be made more generally and largely available for the use of the people.

2. Near the few sea-coast towns, and in a few other populous neighbourhoods, sea-fishing is a pursuit largely followed, and the sale of fresh fish doubtless remunerates the fisherman for his labours; but it is in sparsely-populated and poor districts, where large takes of fish might be secured and be a source of profit to the local fishermen, and at the same time afford a cheap and wholesome supply of food, that the fishermen's calling at present offers but few inducements. In such places it would clearly be to the advantage of the people of the Island at large that sea-fishing should be developed to the greatest possible extent, and that the fish not consumed locally should be cured and sent to other places where it would find a ready sale.

3. There is reason to believe that more sea-fish could be taken, and that a market exists in the Island for a greatly increased supply of home-cured fish. The figures below given, which show the quantity and the value of the salt- and dry-fish imported into Ceylon for consumption

in the Island during each of the ten years from 1872 to 1881, inclusive, are strongly corroborative of this :—

		Quantity. Cwts.		Total. Rs.
1872	...	88,761	...	887,610
1873	...	107,699	...	1,076,990
1874	...	98,643	...	986,430
1875	...	86,106	...	861,060
1876	...	86,667	...	866,670
1877	...	92,250	...	922,500
1878	...	84,429	...	844,290
1879	...	74,283	...	742,830
1880	...	89,936	...	899,360
1881	...	90,659	...	906,590
		Cwts. 899,433		Rs. 8,994,330

And with the exception of, perhaps, the Maldive dry-fish, there seems to be no reason why the whole of the salt- and dry-fish now imported into Ceylon should not be supplied locally.

4. Taking it for granted, then, that more sea-fish could be taken, it seems to be desirable to attempt to solve the question of what stimulus that will not cause an increase of expenditure can be applied to effect this.

5. It is unlikely that the local sale and consumption of fish at the places of capture can be much increased, but fish caught might be salted and sent to other parts. If the fishermen have no means of disposing of their captures, but few will follow the occupation, and the harvest of the sea will remain uncollected; but if a market exists, as I think it does, it is but right that the Government should carefully consider the propriety and advisability of removing the difficulties, so far as this may properly be done, that tend to limit the supply. It is an opinion, shared with me by some officers of experience with whom I have conferred on the subject, that by a reduction in the monopoly price of salt the trade in salt-fish might be augmented; and it seems to be probable that this might be done, without risk to the revenue, if enclosures were made in suitable places within which fish could be salted, salt being sold within the enclosures for the *bonâ fide* salting of fish at a rate but slightly in excess of that sufficient to cover the cost of the salt and the necessary establishment.

6. This question has been most carefully considered by the Government of India, with the result that numerous enclosures, on the principle abovementioned, have been established in the Madras Presidency; and from information kindly afforded to me by Mr. H. W. Bliss, the Commissioner of Salt Revenue, Madras, I am led to believe that they are found to answer the purpose for which they have been established.

7. With a view to obtain the greatest possible amount of information on matters cognate to this subject, I would suggest the advisability of informing the Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents in the maritime districts that a scheme (of which the details as noted in paragraph 11 should be given) has been put forward under which it is proposed to sell salt within certain enclosures, for the purpose of salting fish, at a price but slightly in excess of the actual cost of the salt and of such establishments in connection with the enclosures as may be necessary; and of requesting these officers to furnish replies to the following questions :—

I.—What is the process followed in your district in the salting, drying, or otherwise preserving of fish?

II.—Could the salting of sea-fish be increased in your District; and if so, how, in your opinion, can this best be effected?

III.—Would it be advisable and practicable to carry out the scheme above-mentioned in your district; and, if so, at what points do you consider that curing establishments could most advantageously be set up?

IV.—Is Government salt used for curing fish in your district?

V.—Is salt earth or sea-water used for this purpose?

VI.—Has the practice of salting fish increased or decreased of late in your district, and to what cause may be ascribed any such increase or decrease?

VII.—Are there any headmen of the Fisher caste? Is the office hereditary, or how is it obtained; and what are the duties and emoluments of the same?

VIII.—Does anyone, either Government or private individual, claim rights in respect of the sea fisheries?

IX.—Names of places at which fishing is carried on in your district, and number of men and boats employed in the pursuit; and whether there is reason to believe that in any case the enterprize is capable of further development.

X.—Kind of fish caught; and are the fisheries injured by the capture of immature and gravid fish?

XI.—How are the fishermen supplied with boats, nets, &c.?

XII.—How do the fishermen dispose of the fish caught?

XIII.—Has the number of sea-fishermen increased or decreased, or remained stationary, within your knowledge?

XIV.—Has the number of boats employed in the sea-fishing increased, decreased, or remained stationary, within your knowledge; and has the size of boats remained the same?

8. I would also suggest that it would be satisfactory to obtain an opinion from the Principal Civil Medical Officer on the question of the effect on the public health of the use of the salted, dry, or otherwise preserved fish now in general use by the people of Ceylon. The

substitutes for salt which are reported to be used, such as impure salt earth, or weak brine, and drying in the sun insufficiently to preserve from putrification, may possibly have a direct tendency to disseminate the diseases which ought to be specially guarded against in this climate; and if so, a very strong argument exists for doing all that may reasonably be done to place a sufficient supply of good salt for the purpose of curing fish within the reach of the people.

9. The present rate of salt tax practically acts as a protective duty in Ceylon in favour of foreign countries and places where the cost of salt is lower than it is in Ceylon, and the small import duty of 50 cents a cwt. levied on salt fish is not a sufficient counterpoise; and owing to the action lately taken by the Madras Government in issuing salt for fish-curing at a rate only slightly in excess of cost price, the interests of the Ceylon fishermen are likely to be still further prejudicially affected, unless similar facilities are granted to them in Ceylon.

10. In a letter from Mr. F. Day, Inspector-General of Fisheries, to the Secretary to the Government of India, dated Simla, 25th June, 1873, that officer gives his views of the mode in which the salt tax acts injuriously on the fish-curing industry, and I cannot do better than quote his words, which, slightly altered in some few particulars, apply with great force to Ceylon :—

"Some capital is requisite, and if we admit that from Rs. 10 to Rs. 15 a month are the earnings of the fishermen, how can they invest in salt at 2 or 3 or more rupees a maund for the purpose of salting fish; the return would not come in rapidly enough, and they would have to borrow at exorbitant rates of interest in order to carry on their trade. But it may be urged that traders will advance the money for the purchase of salt, and therefore the trade may well be left for private enterprize. Unfortunately, this sanguine view of looking at the prospects of this industry is hardly consonant with the facts now coming to light. Traders can purchase the identical article at a cheaper rate in contiguous foreign States, and no duty existing against importing it into the British territory, their advances are not made in British salt-taxed districts but in places where no such tax exists. If a trader finds salt at one anna for 80 lbs. in Goa, why should he invest his money in Canara when he probably will not get 2 lbs. for the same amount, with no other differences in the cost of capture of fish or the description of supply. It appears in the common course of trade that he will import from the cheapest market."

The returns of the import of salt fish show that, in the case of Ceylon, the cheapest market is India, whence nearly 3 lbs. of salt-fish is imported annually per head (children included) of population of Ceylon.

11. The following are some of the details of the scheme that I would propose for adoption :—

(*a*) The site selected for fish-curing operations to be enclosed by a high fence of bamboos or jungle sticks, and thorn bushes; with one gate, furnished with a cross bar and lock. Within the enclosure a cadjan building containings tore for salt, with double locks, and a room for the watcher.

(*b*) The establishment, to be provided and paid by Government, should consist of a store-keeper and issuer of salt, and two or more peons or watchers according to the size of the establishment.

(*c*) A watcher should invariably sleep on the premises.

(*d*) Every facility in regard to hours of issue and quantity of salt issued should be given.

(*e*) Persons using the enclosure for the purpose of salting fish to be allowed to erect within the enclosure necessary buildings at their own charges, which buildings should be removable at the pleasure of Government; but in no case should any building be erected at a less distance than twenty feet from the inner side of the fence surrounding the enclosure.

(*f*) Salt may be issued to any person requiring it in any quantity, at 66 cents per cwt., provided the salt be used only within the enclosure, and that the salted fish only be taken out.

(*g*) The cleaning of the fish, prior to curing, should be performed outside the enclosures, and only fish ready for salting should be allowed to be brought within the enclosures.

12. Should my proposals be entertained, it will be necessary to consider the manner in which payment for salt shall be made. The proper mode would be to require all payments to be made to the nearest Kachchéri, and that on receipt of the money the Government Agent shall deliver to the payee an order for the quantity of salt paid for, which order shall be addressed to the person in charge of a particular curing establishment. But in considering this point care must be taken to avoid interposing any obstacles to the fish-curing industry, and the intentions of Government in this matter, as in all others connected with the arrangements for fish-curing, must be so clearly explained as to render any misunderstanding on the part of the fishermen or others interested therein improbable, if not impossible. I mention this, as it is a well-known fact that any attempt on the part of Government to interfere in any way with any native practice or custom is certain to be viewed at first with suspicion by the people.

13. In the first instance, endeavours should be made to induce the fishermen themselves to undertake the curing of fish within the enclosures, but failing them—and there is reason to fear that they will not show much enterprize, as they are an improvident race, and usually poor because they drink their surplus cash—any other person or persons should be encouraged to embark in the undertaking; but although separate enclosures might, under some circumstances, be allowed, it should be clearly understood that no monopoly will be granted by Government. A person may secure the monopoly to himself for a time by fair dealing, *i.e.*, by offering the fishermen a fair price for their fish, by curing well, and by selling the cured fish at fairly remunerative and yet not exorbitant prices, but as soon as he fails in any one of these particulars he will become liable to competition, and it will thus be to his interest to treat both the fishermen and the public well. It is not a question of probability, but it is a certainty, that if a fair prospect of gain offers itself in this enterprise, men with capital will embark in it.

14. In considering the rate at which salt should be issued within the enclosures, I have taken 66 cents as a price that will cover the cost of production (the average cost of which is about 37 cents a cwt.), and will, at the same time, afford a fair margin of profit, which, if the undertaking has fair success, will more than cover the cost of fence, buildings, and establishment.

15. It is necessary to face the fact that the issue of salt at a price very much below the monopoly rate will tend to stimulate smuggling, and that it will be a difficult matter entirely to prevent it. The temptation to smuggle will affect both the curers and the Government servants employed in the curing establishments, and there is no doubt that the concession will be abused unless smuggling is carefully guarded against; but in view of the advantages that may fairly be expected to accrue to the fishermen, the fish-curers, and the people of the Island generally by the plan proposed, it is, I venture to submit, quite worth while to meet and overcome this difficulty, and I see no reason why enclosures such as those in question should not be capable of being guarded as effectually as the salt pans or the salt stores.

16. In order to guard against salt used for curing being afterwards taken from the fish and used for other purposes, it will be necessary to direct that no fish be removed from the yards until the salt that has been applied thereto has become so thoroughly melted and absorbed that it cannot be separated from the fish after removal from the yards.

17. For the supervision of fish-curing enclosures subordinate officers—such as Custom-house officers, postmasters, and superior native headmen, &c.—might be employed under the revenue officers of the district, and they may be granted a small sum per mensem for their services, with an understanding that an increase will be given if the operations are successful. A return, in form as below, should be rendered quarterly for each enclosure by the revenue officer of the district in which the same is situated:—

Name of Station.	No. of applicants for salt at reduced rates.	Weight of fish brought to be cured.	Weight of salt issued.	Price per cwt.	Total value of salt issued.	Expenditure.			
						Buildings	Establishment.	Contingencies.	Total charges.

18. If the quantity of fish cured in the enclosures be small, Government will scarcely be remunerated; but if it be large there may not only be no loss, but an actual profit; and even if the enterprise give no direct gain to the revenue, it will benefit the fishermen and those who cure the fish, and the people of the Island generally, who will have an additional supply of a wholesome article of food placed within their reach. And at the same time there is no reason to fear a loss of salt revenue. It may be, and I trust it will prove, that the demand for home-cured fish will develope into an extensive trade, and that in the future an export trade in the article may be created; and in such case the revenue will gain, in that much more salt will be sold at a price which, though not the monopoly price, is still profitable.

19. Should it be deemed advisable to sanction the formation of one or more enclosures for fish-curing, I shall be prepared to suggest the names of places at which, in my opinion, they may most advantageously be set up; and I would now merely point out that although it is evident that a dry climate is the most suitable for fish-curing, a glance at the accompanying statements of temperature and rainfall will show that fish-curing operations are carried on in the Madras Presidency at places where the average rainfall is very much in excess of that at Colombo.

20. An objection may, perhaps, be taken to the arrangement proposed on the ground that Government cannot logically and consistently tax salt at a high rate when it is sold for consumption as salt, and reduce the tax when it is sold for the purpose of preparing an article used to a considerable extent as a substitute for salt. This argument might have some weight if all or even most of the salt fish consumed in Ceylon were cured with taxed salt, but this is not the case, the tax preventing the people of Ceylon from using the taxed salt in large quantities. Again, while admitting the necessity for stimulating the fishing and fish-curing industries, it may be held that it would be more consistent and more fair to reduce the monopoly price of salt generally rather than to lower it for the benefit of the eaters of salt fish alone. I am not myself prepared to agree to this view of the matter, because the necessity for a general reduction has not been shown; and unless the price of salt were reduced to such an extent as to interfere very materially with the revenue of the Island, I do not anticipate that any appreciable stimulus to the fishing and fish-curing establishments would result; the tax would still prevent an extensive use of salt for fish-curing in Ceylon, and the market would consequently continue to obtain a large proportion of its supplies of salt fish from other countries, where salt for fish-curing can be purchased at a very low rate.

21. In conclusion, I would ask that, in considering this question, it may be remembered that no opinion can be formed of the success or otherwise of the issue of salt at reduced prices for fish-curing unless the experiment be fairly tried and continued for a reasonable time, in order that a correct estimate may be formed of the results.

W. H. RAVENSCROFT,
Auditor-General and Controller of Revenue.

Colombo, 23rd June, 1883.

AVERAGE MONTHLY MEAN RAINFALL.

Stations.	Years.	Jan.	Feb.	March	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Year.
Ceylon.														
Colombo ..	13	3·47	1·96	5·71	9·51	12·67	7·20	5·82	4·00	4·83	12·23	13·10	6·02	86·52
Kalutara ...	11	4·43	3·33	6·02	8·95	14·91	10·71	6·56	5·93	9·26	13·01	13·55	6·02	102·68
Galle ...	13	4·24	3·77	5·15	8·89	11·26	8·09	5·27	5·62	7·75	12·53	11·06	6·66	90·29
Matara ...	3	1·68	1·61	3·57	6·00	10·41	3·96	6·17	3·31	4·77	6·00	11·50	5·45	64·44
Tangalla ...	10	2·16	2·55	2·62	3·39	7·80	5·60	2·51	3·05	5·32	6·79	8·11	5·54	55·44
Hambantota ...	13	3·49	2·13	2·33	2·08	3·46	2·03	1·29	1·71	2·86	5·21	6·51	4·47	37·57
Batticaloa ...	12–13	8·45	3·19	3·64	1·66	1·48	1·28	0·73	3·18	2·18	4·81	12·53	14·69	58·25
Trincomalee ..	12–13	6·51	2·20	1·39	1·88	2·10	1·68	2·46	4·58	4·47	7·88	12·95	13·50	61·60
Mullaittivu ..	10	2·92	2·21	1·52	5·74	1·65	0·65	1·30	3·12	2·88	5·48	10·26	13·06	50·79
Jaffna ...	12	2·14	1·15	1·48	2·34	1·84	0·51	0·60	1·37	2·89	6·72	14·47	9·04	44·55
Mannár ...	12–13	2·29	0·88	2·43	2·56	2·36	0·56	0·13	0·49	0·79	5·43	15·96	7·74	34·81
Puttalam ..	12–13	1·89	1·45	3·85	6·11	3·29	1·49	0·46	1·24	1·17	5·76	10·77	6·21	43·69
Chilaw ...	11	2·66	1·17	3·26	5·69	6·45	3·26	1·86	1·44	1·30	6·52	1·09	4·34	39·04
Negombo .	11	1·75	1·22	4·09	9·43	11·07	5·21	2·98	1·65	3·21	8·18	11·03	5·25	65·07
India:														
Ganjam ...	17–18	0·15	0·58	0·88	1·08	1·68	5·79	4·47	5·77	9·52	9·27	1·32	0·81	41·35*
Bimlipatam ...	21	0·34	0·61	0·14	0·22	2·11	3·19	3·77	3·79	6·26	8·33	1·78	1·18	31·72
Vizagapatam ...	15	0·39	0·33	0·36	0·75	3·71	4·74	5·11	5·53	6·73	11·79	3·37	2·44	45·25*
Coconada ...	18	0·29	0·28	0·10	0·51	2·46	3·99	5·33	5·18	6·39	9·07	2·99	0·73	37·32*
Masulipatam ..	18	0·25	0·10	0·40	0·06	1·89	3·86	5·95	5·77	6·56	8·85	2·87	0·28	36·84
Ongole .	18	0·29	0·03	0·14	0·10	1·49	1·25	2·54	3·28	4·41	6·71	3·52	0·81	24·57
Madras ...	68	0·98	0·31	0·44	0·67	2·33	1·98	3·80	4·53	4·80	10·81	13·12	4·99	48·76
Tranquebar ...	17–18	1·14	0·47	0·10	1·40	1·66	1·12	2·23	3·81	3·55	8·91	13·80	9·14	47·33
Negapatam ...	17–18	0·95	0·91	0·15	1·26	1·88	0·98	1·41	3·06	1·00	7·98	13·70	9·07	45·35*
Tuticorin ...	17–18	1·05	0·47	0·79	1·47	0·69	0·13	0·24	0·39	0·58	3·50	7·45	2·21	18·97
Cochin ...	24–25	0·93	0·89	2·14	4·75	12·54	31·31	22·26	11·78	9·17	11·37	4·40	2·02	113·56
Calicut ...	19–20	0·18	0·18	1·07	3·00	9·55	36·48	29·91	13·94	8·41	8·19	3·22	1·77	115·90*
Tellicherry ...	17–18	0·47	0·09	0·43	3·29	8·77	40·23	36·01	16·45	10·65	6·89	2·35	0·98	126·61
Cannanore ...	19–20	0·50	0·31	0·18	2·64	7·11	43·41	39·91	18·18	9·40	7·75	2·34	0·44	132·17
Mangalore ...	22–27	0·20	0·11	0·15	2·32	8·71	39·72	37·71	22·97	11·55	8·52	1·66	0·61	134·23*

AVERAGE MONTHLY MEAN TEMPERATURES.

Ceylon.														
Colombo ...	13–14	78·9	80·1	82·0	83·0	82·6	81·3	80·6	80·5	80·7	80·4	79·9	79·2	80·8
Galle ...	14	77·8	79·1	80·8	81·7	81·5	80·1	79·3	79·5	79·5	79·4	78·8	78·1	79·6
Hambantota ...	14–15	78·1	79·2	81·0	82·6	81·4	80·5	80·0	79·9	79·9	79·7	78·6	78·6	80·0
Batticaloa ...	12–13	77·0	78·4	80·5	82·7	83·6	83·4	83·0	82·2	81·8	80·9	78·6	77·1	80·8
Trincomalee ...	12–13	77·1	78·4	80·6	82·6	83·4	83·1	82·6	81·5	81·6	80·1	78·2	77·2	80·5
Jaffna ...	12	77·7	79·5	82·7	85·2	84·9	83·5	82·5	82·3	82·1	81·6	79·2	77·6	81·6
Mannar	12–13	78·3	79·8	81·9	84·7	85·0	83·8	82·6	82·3	82·3	81·9	79·7	78·3	81·7
Puttalam ...	13–14	77·3	78·6	81·5	82·9	83·0	81·3	80·9	80·8	80·9	80·6	79·0	77·5	80·4
India:														
Vizagapatam ...	11	76·0	78·9	83·3	86·3	87·6	87·7	85·2	85·2	84·7	83·2	79·4	75·4	82·7
Masulipatam ...	10–11	74·6	77·1	81·0	84·9	87·8	87·3	84·0	83·6	82·6	81·0	77·8	74·9	81·4
Madras ...	21	75·0	77·6	81·0	85·2	87·4	87·7	85·6	84·7	84·2	81·5	78·5	76·3	82·1
Negapatam ...	10–11	76·8	78·4	81·9	84·9	85·8	85·6	84·3	83·2	82·5	81·0	78·7	76·8	81·7
Cochin ...	9–10	78·8	80·2	82·4	83·6	81·7	78·2	77·3	77·8	78·0	78·7	79·5	78·8	79·5

* At these places fish-curing establishments are known to be in operation.

W. H. RAVENSCROFT,
Auditor-General and Controller of Revenue.

VI.—1883.

GRAIN TAX COMMUTATION.

REPORTS

ON THE

COMMUTATION SETTLEMENTS OF THE KALUTARA DISTRICT, THE FOUR KORALES, THE THREE KORALES, AND LOWER BULATGAMA,

UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF "THE GRAIN TAX ORDINANCE, 1878."

(In continuation of Sessional Paper No. XVI. of 1882.)

Ordered by His Excellency the Lieut.-Governor to be Printed.

Colombo:

FRANK LUKER, ACTING GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1883.

GRAIN TAX COMMUTATION.

REPORT ON THE COMMUTATION SETTLEMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF KALUTARA.

THE revenue district of Kalutara was, for the purposes of "The Grain Tax Ordinance, 1878," formed into four commutation districts, and Part II. of the Ordinance was brought into operation on the dates specified in appendix I.

2. The commutation of the tax was begun on the 30th November, 1880, and completed in November of the following year.

3. There are in the district 410 villages containing 28,880 parcels of land, which have been cultivated with paddy within fourteen years previous to 1881-1882. Their total area is approximately 47,295 acres, and the amount found to be payable annually is Rs. 71,843·70. It will be seen, however, from the particulars given in appendix II., that a considerable acreage pays more than one-tenth. Should the higher rates be reduced by redemption, and a uniform tax of one-tenth become leviable, the amount of commutation would be Rs. 51,715, and the rate per acre would be Rs. 1·25 for fields and 16 cents (nearly) for owiti; the present rate being, for fields Rs. 1·74; and for owiti 20 cents.

4. The value of paddy for the purposes of the Ordinance was found to be Rs. 1·10 per bushel. This price, which is much higher than that fixed for other districts of the Province, was determined after hearing evidence. Paddy was seldom sold for less than one rupee during the fourteen years preceding the enquiry, and the average was raised by the high prices which prevailed during two short periods of scarcity.

5. The provisions of the Ordinance were carefully explained when the people came before the Commissioner for the purpose of electing whether annual or crop commutation should be payable in respect of the produce of their fields. The Ordinance was generally approved, but occasionally landowners stated that they would prefer payment in kind under the renting system to either of the modes of payment prescribed by the Ordinance.

6. In all cases annual commutation was chosen, the people deeming it less troublesome, at any rate, if not advantageous pecuniarily, to pay a moderate sum yearly—even for fields damaged by floods or cultivated at long intervals only—than to take crop commutation with the conditions attached to that mode of payment.

7. A large extent of land in the district is flooded three or four times a year. The crops are in consequence often damaged and in some years almost wholly destroyed, the extent of the harm done depending on the duration of the floods.

The Kalu-gaṇga inundates portions of the Uḍukaha and Munwattabágé pattus of the Rayigam kóralé, part of the Gaṇgaboḍa pattu, and a few villages in the Iddagoḍa pattu of the Pasdun kóralé, and a part of the Kalutara Toṭamuné. The Rambara-ela, mentioned in Mr. Dawson's report on the Salpiṭi kóralé, and other streams which fall into the Pánaduré-gaṇga, as well as the waters of the lake itself, submerge the fields of some of the villages in the Adikári pattu (Rayigam kóralé) and in the Pánaduré Toṭamuné. Another part of the Gaṇgaboḍa pattu is flooded by the Kudá-gaṇga—a branch of the Kalu-gaṇga, and its tributaries, which also submerge a portion of the Maha pattu of the Pasdun kóralé. The riverside villages of the Walalláwiṭi kóralé are inundated by the Bentara-gaṇga. Much of the land which is submerged during floods is liable to be covered by brackish water which the spring-tides force up the rivers during the dry weather.

8. Agricultural operations are much the same as in other districts of the Province, except that it is customary, in the Pasdun kóralé and other places, for the cultivator to tread out the corn himself instead of using buffaloes or other cattle for the purpose.

9. Manure (bone dust) is extensively used, and its use is yearly becoming more general. The quantity applied is small, but the result, it is stated, is satisfactory. The bones are ground or pounded to a coarse powder, which is mixed with the seed and scattered with it over the ground. No other kind of manure is used, nor do any bones find favour but those imported from India. The supply is said to run short at times, and the price is then very high. The question whether a fertilizer less costly and more suitable for grain crops than bone dust cannot be procured is one which is worthy of attention, and should commend itself to the consideration of the wealthy proprietors of the district as well as to the Agricultural Association.

10. Another matter which should receive more attention than is paid to it at present is that of change of seed. In the Pasdun kóralé a new kind of paddy was a few years ago introduced, which is now largely used. It was sent by Sir Charles Layard to Mr. Foulkes, of Gikiyanakanda estate, who distributed it to the people. It does not look like what is generally called "Carolina paddy," nor is it known now whence it was imported. It is not necessary to go far for new seed. The Batticaloa district produces several kinds of excellent paddy, some of which might with advantage be introduced into the Western Province. If I remember right, there is a species which is suitable for brackish land, and another the growth of which submersion does not affect.

11. The principal crop is the yala. It is considered essential to success to have the lands sown before the Siṇhalese New Year (12th April). A small extent of land is sown for the maha, and still less for the muttes harvest.

12. Most of the ęlas and channels in the district require clearing and putting in order. This matter is now, I believe, engaging the attention of the Assistant Government Agent. Rules have been framed under the Paddy Cultivation Ordinance, the enforcement of which will no doubt produce excellent results.

ALLANSON BAILEY,
Grain Commissioner.

Galle, 28th December, 1882.

Appendix I.

Commutation District.	Date of Proclamation.	Date on which Part II. of Grain Tax Ordinance came into operation.	No. of Villages.	No. of fields or parcels of land.
Pánaduré Division ...	22nd October, 1880	1st January, 1881	32	2,128
Kalutara Division ...	25th February, 1881	1st March, 1881	75	4,415
Rayigam Kóralé ...	17th February, 1881	1st January, 1882	162	12,282
Pasdun and Walalláwiṭi kórales	Do.	Do.	141	10,055

Appendix II.

Rate of Tax.	Pánaduré Division.		Kalutara Division.		Rayigam Kóralé.		Pasdun and Walalláwiti Kóralés.		Total.	
	Extent.	Amount.	Extent.	Amount.	Extent.	Amount.	Extent.	Amount.	Extent.	Amount.
Paddy fields	A. R. P.	Rs. cts.	A. R. P.	Rs. cts.	A. R. P.	Rs. cts.	A. R. P.	Rs. cts.	A. R. P.	Rs. cts.
taxed at ½	22 3 6	127 25	490 1 5	2120 85	1913 2 2	7841 68	2114 1 5	6936 84	4540 3 18	17026 62
Do. ⅜	—	—	—	—	3 2 4	34 0	—	—	3 2 4	34 0
Do. ⅓	—	—	2 2 4	2 26	—	—	—	—	2 2 4	2 26
Do. 3-10th	67 3 5	417 65	—	—	52 1 2	195 75	—	—	120 0 7	613 40
Do. ¼	10 2 0	75 55	17 2 6	33 45	1329 0 1	4788 15	1475 3 2	4303 32	2832 3 9	9200 47
Do. 1-5th	15 0 4	27 50	79 2 4	80 0	—	—	252 2 5	308 30	347 0 13	415 80
Do. 7-40th	—	—	—	—	4 3 0	18 25	—	—	4 3 0	18 25
Do. 1-10th	1331 1 1	2422 55	4456 1 4	7268 86	13662 2 1	17779 85	13142 0 4	15639 93	32592 0 10	43111 19
Owiti taxed at ½	0 1 0	0 30	51 3 5	49 50	258 0 2	229 70	125 1 4	86 60	435 1 11	366 10
Do. ⅜	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Do ⅓	—	—	—	—	—	—	.	—	—	—
Do. 3-10th	1 1 0	1 35	—	—	—	—	—	—	1 1 0	1 35
Do. ¼	—	—	15 0 0	8 0	23 0 4	10 87	139 2 2	46 54	177 2 6	65 41
Do. 1-5th	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	. . .	—
Do. 7-40th	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Do. 1-10th	304 3 3	56 60	1931 0 5	423 28	1461 1 2	218 15	2539 3 3	290 82	6236 3 13	988 85
Total ...	1753 2 19	3128 75	7043 3 33	9986 20	18707 3 18	31116 40	19789 0 25	27612 35	47294 2 15	71843 70

Appendix III.

Commutation District.	Average Revenue derived annually from sales of Grain Taxes.		Annual Commutation payable under Grain Tax Ordinance.
	14 Years.	5 Years.	
	1867-1880.	1876-1880.	
	Rs. cts	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
Pánaduré Division	3,116 10	3,391 82	3,128 75
Kalutara Division	10,230 22	10,945 65	9,986 20
Rayigam Kóralé	30,088 67	34,527 33	31,116 40
Pasdun and Walalláwiṭi Kóralés ...	27,464 34	30,592 7	27,612 35
	70,899 33	79,456 87	71,843 70

ALLANSON BAILEY,
Grain Commissioner.

REPORT ON THE COMMUTATION SETTLEMENT OF THE PARANAKURU KORALE AND THE KINIGODA-GALBODA KORALE OF THE KEGALLA DISTRICT.

THE revenue district of Kégalla comprises four chief headmen's divisions, each of which was made a commutation district under the provisions of "The Grain Tax Ordinance," 1878, and Part II. of the Ordinance was brought into operation from the 1st January, 1882. Mr. Dawson has reported on the two districts for which he was appointed Commissioner, and has described the manner in which the work was carried on by him. The same system was adopted in the Paranakúru and Kinigoḍa-Galboḍa kóralés.

2. The particulars given in appendix I. show that there is comparatively little land subject to a higher rate than that which prevails generally in the Kandyan districts, viz., one-fourteenth. The average amount payable per acre—a little over Rs. 2·15—is high compared with the rate in the maritime portions of the Western Province, but it must be borne in mind that the districts to which this report refers are unusually fertile. Most of the lands yield two crops a year, the soil is generally good, and the water-supply seldom fails.

3. The amount of commutation found to be payable under the new Ordinance is Rs. 44,213·24 for the whole district of Kégalla. This sum, which is liable to reduction on account of remissions granted to headmen in office, is less by nearly twelve per cent. than the average annual revenue derived from paddy during the past fourteen years. It appears, however, that during a portion of that period the people were paying more than the proper value of the Government share.* The present tax is probably fair, as a substantial reduction was made in 1877 when the commutation agreements were renewed; and the result of the statement by the Grain Commissioners has been a further slight reduction.

4. In appendix III. are given the estimated extent of exempted lands, and the probable value of the tax calculated at 1/14th. The only permanent exemptions are those in favour of temples and for loyalty, conceded by the Proclamation of 21st November, 1818. The exemptions in favour of headmen in office, granted by the 23rd clause of the same Proclamation, are temporary, and vary in amount every year. The people of the Paranakúru and Kinigoḍa-Galboḍa kóralés do not appear to have availed themselves of the privilege of redemption which was granted from 1834 to 1841, nor were any Crown lands sold in those divisions free of tax.

5. The total population of the revenue district of Kégalla was at the date of the last Census (1881) 119,955 persons. The estimated area of the rice lands is 24,752 acres, or one acre for every 4½ persons. Considerable quantities of food are grown on high lands, but the Grain Commissioners have no information as to the extent of such lands. They are not taxed in this district except when cultivated with "ełwi" (hill paddy), the assessment of the Government share of which is, by the Grain Tax Ordinance, entrusted to the Government Agent.

ALLANSON BAILEY,
Grain Commissioner.

Paradúwa, 26th April, 1883.

Appendix I.

RATE OF TAX.	Paranakúru Kóralé.—9,754 lots.		Kinigoḍa-Galboḍa Kóralé.—12,053 lots.		TOTAL.—21,807 lots.	
	Extent.	Amount of Commutation.	Extent.	Amount of Commutation.	Extent.	Amount of Commutation.
	A. R. P.	Rs. cts.	A. R. P.	Rs. cts.	A. R. P.	Rs. cts.
Land taxed at ½ ...	—	—	0 2 0	2 0	0 2 0	2 0
Do. ⅓ ...	—	—	2 0 20	5 50	2 0 20	5 50
Do. 1-5th ...	12 0 20	41 90	22 1 30	120 32	34 2 10	162 22
Do. 1-10th ...	93 2 20	243 54	129 2 30	297 28	223 1 10	540 82
Do. 1-14th ..	4942 0 5	10460 83	6847 3 0	14746 32	11789 3 5	25207 15
TOTAL ..	5047 3 5	10746 27	7002 2 0	15171 42	12050 1 5	25917 69

Appendix II.

Name of Kóralé.	REVENUE AVERAGE. 14 Years. Rs. cts.	1877-1880. Rs. cts.	Amount of Annual Commutation. Rs. cts.
Paranakúru kóralé ...	13,053 30	11,444 20	10,746 27
Kinigoḍa-Galboḍa kóralé ...	17,591 52	16,874 76	15,171 42
	Rs. 30,644 82	Rs. 28,318 96	Rs. 25,917 69

* "There seems to be an impression generally that under the present assessment the Government are recovering more than is fairly due."—*Revenue Administration Report of the Assistant Government Agent for* 1874.

"A diminution under the head 'Land Revenue' may be looked for in future returns. The commutation of 1869-76 which has just closed was based on an over-assessment: of this fact my predecessor was well aware, and so, I believe, was the Government Agent."—*Administration Report for* 1876.

Appendix III.

LANDS exempt from Grain Tax, with estimated value of tax at 1/14th.

Name of Kóralé.	Loyalty.		Wihárás.		Déwálas.		TOTAL.	
	A. R. P.	Rs. cts.	A. R. P.	Rs. cts.	A. R. P.	Rs. cts.	A. R. P.	Rs. cts.
Paranakúru Kóral ...	51 2 16	112 77	97 0 10	212 83	124 1 10	257 94	272 3 36	583 54
Galboda Kóralé ...	195 1 30	485 32	281 3 22	599 38	693 3 20	1728 77	1170 0 32	2813 47
Kinigoda Kóralé ...	130 0 22	294 5	21 2 30	48 39	190 2 30	416 90	342 2 2	759 34
Total ...	377 0 28	892 14	400 2 22	860 60	1008 3 20	2403 61	1786 2 30	4156 35

ALLANSON BAILEY,
Grain Commissioner.

REPORT UPON COMMUTATION SETTLEMENT IN THREE KORALES, LOWER BULATGAMA AND BELIGAL KORALE OF THE DISTRICT OF KEGALLA.

1. THE Grain Tax Ordinance was introduced into these divisions from the 1st January, 1882, by the Proclamation of the 12th November, 1881.

2. The work was carried on as it had been in Sabaragamuwa, the other Kandyan District of the Province; the Commissioner, as Additional Assistant to the Government Agent, cancelling all agreements affecting the payment of grain-tax which had been made between that officer and the land-owners before determining the amounts to be paid under the Ordinance.

3. The district prices of paddy were found to be the average prices accepted by the people in commuting upon the optional system during the fourteen and seven years immediately preceding the date of the introduction into the district of the Ordinance.

4. The tables of dry measure and land measure which were included in my report upon Sabaragamuwa fully apply to the Kégalla District, and I may add, in my belief, to the Western Province generally. They have no reference to dry grain and its cultivation.

A. R. DAWSON,
Grain Commissioner.

Ambalangoda, 28th August, 1882.

Appendix I.

NOTES.

The contents of appendix III. differ from those of the return laid before the Legislative Council.—(*Sessional Papers of* 1878, page 332.)

There are no lands in Three kóralés and Lower Bulatgama which are exempted from grain-tax by the conditions of their sale, while in the Beligal kóralé there are about 76 acres.

The return gives for both divisions 774 acres as exempted on account of temples, 66 acres on account of redemption of tax, and 136 acres on account of loyalty, the value of the "tythe" being estimated, respectively, at Rs. 1,496, Rs. 165, and Rs. 341. My figures for temples are 1,103 acres, on account of redemption 182 acres, and for loyalty 198 acres, the grain-tax (at one-fourteenth, the rate which prevails in the district) being estimated at Rs. 2,302, Rs. 425 and Rs. 299.

Acreage and value of tax I have calculated in the manner explained in my report upon Sabaragamuwa.

The whole amount of grain-tax due from the two divisions under the Ordinance is Rs. 18,295·55, the amount remitted in perpetuity, Rs. 3,206·66.

In a foot-note to the Council Return the extent of land which is exempted for headmen in office is stated with the value of the exemption. The number of acres, 958, may be incorrect, but the value of tax, Rs. 2,693, should be exact. The practice in the districts of Kégalla and Sabaragamuwa is to collect no tax from lands the owners of which hold instruments of exemption. These instruments confer either exemption in perpetuity—as in the case of lands held by the descendants of loyal chiefs, by the incumbents of temples, by the owners of lands the tax on which has been redeemed, and of lands sold by the Government free of tax, or exemption of a temporary and conditional nature—as in the case of lands owned by headmen in office, by retired headmen, and by such a person as the Basnáyaka Nilamé of the Maha Saman Déwálé. In the former case the practice could not be altered, but in the latter it might be, and with advantage.

In every instance where exemption is terminable the lands affected will be found entered in the register with amounts in commutation of tax recorded against them. The conditions upon which these dues are remitted are not always strictly fulfilled, and I would recommend that each year they should be paid in by the person claiming exemption, a refund being granted of what, after close investigation, might be found to be justly remissible. This plan, in addition to the protection which it would give to the revenue, might be carried out in such a manner as to have a beneficial influence on the conduct of headmen who are in active service. No headman, for instance, would receive a refund whose work for the year had been unsatisfactory.

Further, I would suggest that a careful examination be made of certificates of redemption of tax and of Crown deeds issued upon sales held under the advertisement of the 20th of March, 1834, with special reference to the present extent of the fields affected by such instruments.

The rate over acreage in the Three kóralés and Lower Bulatgama appears low in comparison with that for the Beligal kóralé.

The latter division is extraordinarily fertile, and the cultivation of paddy within it is carried on under less precarious circumstances than in most parts of the country The figures, moreover, for Three kóralés include a large extent of land which is only occasionally cultivated, and from which very small annual payments are due.

The rate is the same as that of the adjoining divisions—the Kuruwiṭi and Hewágam kóralés.

In the course of my work I met with Nindagama tenants, who have yet to receive the benefit of the provision of the 17th clause of the Service Tenures' Ordinance.

All the best kinds of rice are grown, but, as elsewhere, in quantities insufficient for the wants of the inhabitants even when supplemented, as in the Three kóralés, with large crops of other cereals grown upon high lands.

The yield could doubtless be increased by the introduction of improvements in the rude system of husbandry. The yield on good ordinary land in the Beligal kóralé exceeds what I regard as the general average—ten-fold. An acre of mud land in this division may be worth Rs. 100; in the Three kóralés about Rs. 80.

Cattle in both divisions are plentiful and healthy.

Rules to promote the maintenance and extension of paddy cultivation are in force in the Beligal kóralé, but into the Three kóralés it appears that the Ordinance No. 21 of 1867 has not been introduced, and in consequence old agricultural customs are said to command little or no attention.

No irrigation works have been repaired or constructed by the Government.

A. R. DAWSON,
Grain Commissioner.

Appendix II.

RESULTS OF WORK.

	Beligal Kóralé—12,264 lots.			Three Kóralés and Lower Bulatgama—10,751 lots.			TOTAL—23,015 lots.		
	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.
Extent taxed at 1-5th ...	0	1	30	0	1	10	0	3	0
Extent taxed at 1-10th ...	119	2	20	42	0	20	161	3	0
Extent taxed at 1-14th ...	5,542	3	30	3,650	1	0	9,193	0	30
Total extent ..	5,663	0	0	3,692	2	30	9,355	2	30
	Rs.		cts.	Rs.		cts.	Rs.		cts.
Amount of annual commutation ...	13,260		56	5,034		99	18,295		55
Average revenue for 14 years	13,197		74	6,174		29	19,272		3
Rate over acreage of annual commutation ...	2		34	1		36	1		95

Appendix III.

LANDS exempted from grain tax, with probable value of the exemption.

	Beligal Kóralé.									Three Kóralés and Lower Bulatgama.									TOTAL.								
	Native sowing measure.			Acreage.					Probable value of tax.		Native sowing measure.			Acreage.					Probable value of tax.		Native sowing measure.			Acreage.					Probable value of tax.	
	A.	P.	K.	A.	R.	P.			Rs.	cts.	A.	P.	K.	A.	R.	P.			Rs.	cts.	A.	P.	K.	A.	R.	P.			Rs.	cts.
Exempted as property of temples ..	327	0	4	817	3	0			1913	53	114	1	4	285	3	20			388	66	441	1	8	1103	2	20			2302	19
Exempted for loyalty	12	1	4	30	3	20			72	24	66	3	8	167	1	20			227	63	79	1	2	198	1	0			299	87
Tax redeemed .	72	2	9	181	3	10			425	44	—			—					—		72	2	9	181	3	10			425	44
Sold free of tax ..	30	2	5	76	2	10			179	16	—			—					—		30	2	5	76	2	10			179	16
Total ...	—			1107	0	0			2590	37	—			453	1	0			616	29	—			1560	1	0			3206	66

A. R. DAWSON,
Grain Commissioner.

VII.—1883.

COLOMBO HARBOUR.

CORRESPONDENCE

RELATING TO

A PROPOSAL TO REMOVE A PORTION OF THE "TARTAR ROCK."

Ordered by His Excellency the Lieut.-Governor to be Printed.

Colombo:

FRANK LUKER, ACTING GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1883.

COLOMBO HARBOUR APPROACHES.

No. 1.

Governor Sir J. R. LONGDEN, K.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY.

No. 197. Kandy, 26th April, 1883.

Miscellaneous.

MY LORD,—I HAVE the honour to enclose a copy of a correspondence relative to a proposal made by Captain Donnan, the Master Attendant of Colombo, suggesting that a portion of the "Tartar rock"—a rock lying near the approach to Colombo harbour, should be removed. It will be seen from the enclosed papers that the rock, which is about fifty feet square, has a minimum depth over it of 21 feet, and that it is proposed to remove the upper part of the rock to a depth of 12 feet, so as to prevent any possibility of danger to ships passing over it. The cost of the work is estimated by the Resident Engineer of the Harbour Works at Rs. 14,000, and I would request that the enclosed papers may be submitted to Sir John Coode for his consideration and advice.

I have, &c.,
J. R. LONGDEN.

Enclosure No. 1 in No. 1.

From the MASTER ATTENDANT, Colombo, to the Hon. the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

No. 110. Master Attendant's Office,
Colombo, 3rd September, 1881.

SIR,—I HAVE the honour to recommend that steps be taken to blow up the "Tartar rock" in the outer roads, in order to remove it from being a danger to shipping in the approaches to the harbour. If this were done, the approaches would be free from all danger with the exception of the "Drunken Sailor," which however can scarcely be called in the approaches to the harbour, being so close in shore and so much to the southward of the port.

2. The "Tartar rock," I believe, is of conical shape, having a depth of 42 feet of water at its base and 21 feet on its top; and therefore, I presume, the removal of about twelve feet of it from the top would not be a very difficult or expensive operation. The Acting Resident Engineer of the Harbour Works might have it examined by his divers during some of the fine weather which may be expected between now and the commencement of block-setting, and report upon the cost of blowing it up.

I am, &c.,
J. DONNAN,
Master Attendant.

Enclosure No. 2 in No. 1.

From the MASTER ATTENDANT, Colombo, to the Hon. the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

No. 52. Master Attendant's Office,
Colombo, 20th April, 1883.

SIR,—IN returning the sketch of the "Tartar rock" which accompanied your letter No. 54 of the 19th instant, I have the honour to state that I consider the rock is undoubtedly a standing danger to vessels coming into the harbour from the south or south-west, or leaving the harbour bound in those directions, especially at night.

I do not say that the rock cannot be avoided by careful navigation, but should a vessel by any chance strike on it, it would seriously injure the good name of the port, and if the cost of blasting away the rock would not amount to a very large sum, I would certainly recommend that it should be done.

I have, &c.,
J. DONNAN,
Master Attendant.

Enclosure No. 3 in No. 1.

From the RESIDENT ENGINEER, Harbour Works, to the Hon. the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

No. 61.

Harbour Works,
Colombo, 24th April, 1883.

SIR,—IN reply to your letter No. 66 of the 19th instant, I have the honour to state that I am of opinion that it will cost Rs. 14,000, approximately, to remove the "Tartar rock" to a depth of forty feet.

I am, &c.,
JOHN KYLE,
Resident Engineer.

No. 2.

The UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE to Governor Sir J. R. LONGDEN, G.C.M.G.

Ceylon.
No. 205.

Downing-street, 20th June, 1883.

SIR,—I AM directed by the Secretary of State to transmit to you, for your information, in reply to your despatch No. 197 of 26th April last, the documents specified in the annexed schedule.

I have, &c.,
ROBERT G. W. HERBERT.

Date.		Description of Document.
15th June	...	Copy of letter from the Crown Agents regarding the proposed removal of the "Tartar rock" outside Colombo harbour.

Enclosure in No. 2.

The CROWN AGENTS to the COLONIAL OFFICE.

Downing-street,
London, 15th June, 1883.

Colombo Harbour.

SIR,—WITH reference to your letter of the 2nd instant, on the subject of the removal of a portion of the "Tartar rock" outside Colombo harbour, I have the honour to enclose, for the information of the Earl of Derby, a copy of a report from Sir John Coode recommending that the work should be undertaken and the rock reduced as proposed by Mr. Kyle so as to give 40 feet of water over it at the lowest tides.

The plans and other original enclosures of the despatch from the Governor are herewith returned.

I have, &c.,
M. F. OMMANNEY.

Sub-Enclosure in Enclosure in No. 2.

Sir JOHN COODE to CROWN AGENTS.

5, Westminster Chambers,
12th June, 1883.

Colombo Harbour.

GENTLEMEN,—I BEG to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 7th instant, enclosing copy of a despatch from the Governor of Ceylon, with correspondence relative to the removal of a portion of the "Tartar rock," which is regarded by the Master Attendant as a source of danger to vessels making Colombo harbour.

Although this danger is not great, I nevertheless concur in the opinion of Captain Donnan that it will be a wise step to obviate *all* risk by blasting the rock down to a sufficient level to attain this object.

It appears by the papers transmitted from the Colony that the Master Attendant's proposal is to lower the top of the rock to the extent of 12 feet, which would give 33 feet of water at low water of spring tides instead of 21 feet as at present.

Having regard to the large expenditure that has been incurred at Colombo, by means of which the new harbour has been made capable of accommodating vessels of the very largest draught, I am of opinion that the blasting of the "Tartar rock" should be so carried out as to give 40 feet of water over it at the time of low water of lowest tides, as suggested by Mr. Kyle. It is to be borne in mind that provision must be made not only for the nett draught of the ship passing over it, but also for the "scend" of the sea, which, at the height of the south-west monsoon, must necessarily be very heavy on this part of the coast.

With regard to the question of the cost of this work, I believe that the sum named by Mr. Kyle, in his letter to the Colonial Secretary of 24th April, ultimo, will be sufficient to give the depth of 40 feet as calculated by him.

I have, &c.,
JNO. COODE.

VIII.—1883.

VILLAGE TRIBUNALS.

A STATEMENT

SHOWING

THE DISTRICTS, PRESIDENTS, THEIR SALARIES AND STAFFS, AND THE NUMBER AND THE NATURE OF THE CASES DISPOSED OF DURING THE YEAR 1882.

Ordered by His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor to be Printed.

Colombo:

FRANK LUKER, ACTING GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1883.

RETURN showing the Names of Districts, Presidents, &c., and the Number of Cases instituted, decided, and in Appeal, under "The Village Communities Ordinance," throughout the Island, for the year 1882.

Districts.	Presidents	Salaries.	Staff.	Cost of Staff per Annum.	Institutions. Civil.	Institutions. Criminal.	Institutions. Amicable Settlements under section 23.	Decisions. Civil. Breaches of V. C. Rules.	Decisions. Civil. Irrigation.	Decisions. Civil. Money.	Decisions. Civil. Land.	Decisions. Civil. By Consent.	Decisions. Criminal. Assault.	Decisions. Criminal. Theft.	Decisions. Criminal. Malicious Injury	Decisions. Criminal. Cattle Trespass.	Decisions. Criminal. Maintenance.	Decisions. Criminal. Miscellaneous.	Appeals. To Government Agent. Confirmed.	Appeals. To Government Agent. Set aside.	Appeals. From G. A. to Governor and Ex. Council. Confirmed.	Appeals. From G. A. to Governor and Ex. Council. Set aside.
Western Province.				Rs.																		
Alutkuru-kórale South.																						
Gampaha ...	J. M. P. Pieris, Mudaliyár of the Governor's Gate	Rs. 1,800 per annum including travelling allowance.	4 Native Writers at Rs. 20 each, 4 Messengers at Rs. 10 each, 3 Sweepers at Rs. 5 each, and 1 Sweeper at Rs. 1 per month.	1,656	317	269	131	67	9	314	4	6	99	46	42	2	4	—	4	4	—	—
Kanuwana ...					369	318	130	116	—	392	3	—	144	85	9	1	1	—	14	4	—	—
Ambatalenpahala ...					136	165	96	81	—	118	—	—	33	33	16	—	—	—	11	—	—	—
Wattala ...					91	150	42	48	—	87	2	—	52	30	8	1	—	—	3	—	—	—
Héwágam-kóralé.																						
Hapwella ...	L. C. F. Samanackody, Mudaliyár ..	Rs. 1,600 per annum including travelling allowance,	3 Native Writers at Rs. 20 each, 2 Messengers at Rs. 10 each. and 3 Sweepers at Rs. 5 each per month.	1,140	353	374	50	153	—	312	11	—	126	64	3	30	12	—	22	4	—	—
Nawagomuwa ...					274	312	38	118	—	228	13	—	84	101	2	31	6	—	10	5	—	—
Mulleriyáwa ...					65	83	12	26	—	51	1	—	36	26	—	14	—	—	1	1	—	—
Siyané-kóralé West.																						
Mahara ...	D.A.E. Dias Bandaranayaka	Rs. 1,600 per annum including travelling allowance.	2 Native Writers at Rs. 20 each, 2 Messengers at Rs. 10 each, and 1 Sweeper at Rs. 5 per month.	780	489	410	114	153	—	405	—	2	107	79	2	—	4	—	1	4	—	—
Henaratgoda ...					687	511	222	96	1	604	2	5	172	121	2	1	12	—	6	3	—	—
Salpiti-kóralé.																						
Gangodawila ...	D. A. A. Wijayasinha, Mudaliyár ...	Rs. 1,500 per annum including travelling allowance.	1 Native Writer at Rs. 20, 1 Messenger at Rs. 10, and 2 Process Servers at Rs. 10 each per month.	600	481	839	262	256	8	180	2	53	272	153	8	108	2	—	13	5	2	—
Kégalla.																						
Máwanella ..	J. H. Girihagama ...	Do.	2 Native Writers at Rs. 20 each, 2 Messengers at Rs. 10 each, and 2 Sweepers at Rs. 5 each per month.	600	820	679	33	253	13	785	35	—	127	161	38	87	27	—	28	6	1	—
Rambukkana ...					702	540	43	215	21	654	48	—	84	126	41	89	18	—	19	4	—	—
Dehiówita ...	J. C. Molamuré ..	Do.	2 Native Writers at Rs. 20 each. 2 Messengers at Rs. 10 each, 2 Sweepers at Rs. 5 each, and 1 Sweeper at Rs 2·50.	635	940	810	340	96	—	198	18	1	27	58	3	5	3	—	19	3	3	—
Ruapwella ...					207	142	50	6	—	20	2	1	3	5	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
Bulatkohopitiya ...					282	105	121	12	—	53	6	—	3	14	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—

Ratnapura.																							
Higgashéna ...	E. F. Mapitigama ...	Rs. 1,500 per annum including travelling allowance.	1 Native Writer at Rs. 20, and 1 Messenger at Rs. 10 per month.	360	426	385	28	149	6	477	2	37	50	149	13	64	3	—	23	12	—	—
Minnana ...					409	193	19	83	—	333	—	27	26	57	6	31	5	—	6	2	—	—
Kiriella ...					170	123	12	54	—	155	—	15	23	34	3	23	1	—	1	—	—	—
North-Western Province.																							
		Rs.																					
Wé-udawilli-hatpattu ...	J. C. Amarasekara ...	800* ...	1 Clerk, 2 Messengers and 1 Court-keeper ...	510	1242	1062	599	236	—	1328	26	—	118	120	3	534	26	—	38	2	—	—
Wanni-hatpattu ...	G. W. Dodanwela ...	800* ...	1 Clerk, 2 Messengers and 2 Court-keepers ..	540	1549	1320	328	1053	2	1370	21	372	92	51	12	50	21	—	51	11	1	—
Dewamédi-hatpattu ...	S. E. Herat ...	800* ...	1 Clerk, 2 Messengers and 1 Court-keeper ..	510	1822	900	217	150	—	1601	50	—	97	63	10	501	25	—	68	22	—	—
Katugampola-hatpattu ...	R. B. W. Moonamale ...	800* ..	1 Clerk, 2 Messengers and 2 Court-keepers ...	540	3360	1295	1322	256	1	2474	101	—	131	184	39	461	26	—	5	—	—	—
Hiriyala-hatpattu ...	C. H. Moonamale .	800* ...	1 Clerk, 1 Messenger and 2 Court-keepers ..	414	1114	736	310	136	—	506	106	234	70	55	15	446	26	—	24	13	1	—
Dambadeni-hatpattu ...	J. H. Halpe ...	800* ...	1 Clerk, 2 Messengers, and 2 Court-keepers ...	540	1688	1509	1094	277	—	1719	23	—	154	189	—	916	23	—	23	7	—	—
Demala-hatpattu of the Puttalam District ...	R. A. H. Banda ...	800* ...	1 Messenger ...	54	282	226	35	88	—	345	11	90	37	18	—	*65	5	—	—	3	—	—
Southern Province.																							
Galle.																							
Bentota Walalláwiti-kóralé	J. E. Jayatileke ...	Rs. 1,100 and Rs. 360 travelling allowance	1 Clerk and 2 Peons ..	420	1262	747	254	75	—	1136	3	—	219	124	32	58	10	—	36	28	1	—
Hinidum-pattu and Mapalagama	A. R. Senewiratna ...	Rs. 1,000, and Rs. 360 travelling allowance.	do. do. ...	600	485	378	98	18	—	431	39	1	122	91	8	68	13	—	25	5	3	—
Mátara.																							
Wellaboda-pattu ...	J. D. C. Perera ...	Rs. 840, and Rs. 300 travelling allowance.	do. do. ...	420	1359	1339	591	329	28	1013	147	51	247	221	27	33	37	—	87	23	4	—
Gangaboda-pattu ...	J. P. Gunatileka ...	Do.	do. do. ...	420	1161	1264	447	543	—	1133	98	14	443	363	28	9	46	—	133	15	5	—
Weligam-kóralé ...	R. R. Dunuwila ...	Rs. 1,100, and Rs. 360 travelling allowance.	do. do. ...	420	1265	1469	483	87	43	1255	10	33	601	290	18	—	20	—	74	5	1	—
Morowak-kóralé ..	C. A. Senewiratne ...	Do.	do. do. ...	420	1039	468	461	76	12	599	130	4	125	89	13	35	22	—	88	14	3	—
Eastern Province.																							
		Rs.																					
Batticaloa North ...	J. Somanader, Mudaliyár	1,200 ...	5 Clerks and 2 Messengers	780	2193	1148	1011	750	—	2336	15	96	154	132	15	77	55	—	8	1	—	—
Batticaloa South ...	Ebenezer Crowther ...	1,200 ..	4 Clerks and 2 Messengers	900	3164	628	844	70	—	3271	1	248	144	82	9	13	49	—	—	—	—	—
Trincomalee.																							
Koddiar-pattu ...	M. Nannamuttu ...	1,000 ...	3 Clerks and 2 Messengers	720	1046	318	268	82	—	926	6	72	173	19	19	9	10	—	1	1	—	—
Kaddukkulam-pattu ...					457	263	206	165	—	419	2	105	48	9	5	26	7	—	6	1	—	1
Tampalakam-pattu ...					419	193	41	102	—	368	1	37	47	19	11	5	3	—	—	—	—	—
Central Province.																							
Kandy.																							
Udunuwara ...	K. Kuda Banda ..	1,320 ..	Five ..	777·50	462	772	357	75	49	254	163	45	83	53	101	40	14	—	45	10	—	—
Lower Dumbara ...	C. B. Nugawela ...	1,698 ...	Three ...	540	1311	1352	85	674	36	1258	21	90	216	176	103	125	58	—	148	9	1	—
Upper Dumbara ...					469	417	17	174	3	443	3	43	52	59	19	76	28	—	22	2	—	—

* These Presidents also draw a sum of 360 rupees as travelling allowance

Districts.	Presidents.	Salaries.	Staff.	Cost of Staff per annum.	Institutions. Civil.	Institutions. Criminal.	Amicable Settlements under section 23.	Decisions. Breaches of V. C. Rules.	Decisions. Irrigation.	Decisions. Civil. Money.	Decisions. Civil. Land.	Decisions. By Consent.	Decisions. Criminal. Assault.	Decisions. Criminal. Theft.	Decisions. Criminal. Malicious Injury.	Decisions. Criminal. Cattle Trespass.	Decisions. Criminal. Maintenance.	Decisions. Criminal. Miscellaneous.	Appeals. To Government Agent. Confirmed.	Appeals. To Government Agent. Set aside.	Appeals. From G. A. to Governor and Ex. Council. Confirmed.	Appeals. From G. A. to Governor and Ex. Council. Set aside.
Central Province—*contd.*																						
		Rs.		Rs.																		
Badulla.																						
Udukinda ...	H. E. Dambawinna ...	1,220 ...	Three ...	540	294	216	110	37	13	265	5	3	44	13	5	21	9	—	4	1	—	—
Mátalé.																						
Mátalé North ...	W. A. Dúlléwe ...	1,200 ...	Three ...	540	1029	578	295	181	—	772	79	14	83	37	7	173	6	—	36	11	—	—
Mátalé East ...	S. Ratwatte ...	1,200 ...	Three ...	540	1013	644	142	—	—	855	24	68	268	84	20	147	31	—	5	—	—	—
Nuwara Eliya.																						
Walapane ...	T. B. Madugalla ...	1,320 ...	Two ...	562·50	160	165	61	26	—	143	5	—	35	35	1	46	6	—	1	—	—	—
Uda Héwaheta ...					422	326	115	50	—	411	2	—	62	108	2	79	10	—	7	1	—	—
Kotmalé ...	W. D. Banda ...	1,320 ...	Two ...	369	254	208	79	83	—	235	2	—	75	44	12	17	6	—	—	—	—	—
North-Central Province.																						
Nuwaragam Palata ...	T. B Timbiriwewe ...	1,500 ...	1 Clerk, 2 Messengers, and 6 Court-keepers ...	492	846	672	338	331	73	803	43	—	52	12	9	145	23	—	14	5	—	—
Hurulu Palata ...	E. Loku Banda ...	1,500 ...	do. do. ...	504	670	643	126	411	86	615	50	—	46	13	18	129	22	—	28	12	—	—
Kalagam Palata ...	D. Ukku Banda ..	1,500 ...	1 Clerk, 2 Messengers, and 7 Court-keepers ...	486	353	499	243	119	10	135	10	208	40	17	18	121	6	—	12	2	—	—
Tamankaduwa ...	E. M. de Costa* ...	780 ...	1 Clerk, 2 Messengers, and 4 Court-keepers ...	557·50	123	38	—	21	—	99	2	—	17	4	2	—	1	—	2	1	—	—

* This President receives an additional sum of Rs. 720 per annum as Raṭémahatmayá of Tamankaduwa.

IX.—1883.

DESPATCHES

RELATING TO THE

NEW LUNATIC ASYLUM.

(In continuation of Sessional Paper No. XXII. of 1882.)

Ordered by His Excellency the Lieut.-Governor to be Printed.

Colombo:

FRANK LUKER, ACTING GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1883.

CONTENTS.

PAGE

No. 1.—DESPATCH from Governor Sir J. R. Longden, K.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the Earl of Kimberley; December 8th, 1882 1

No. 2.—DESPATCH from the Right Hon. the Earl of Derby to Governor Sir J. R. Longden, G.C.M.G.; June 18th, 1883 4

ENCLOSURE No. 1.—Minute by Mr. Ommanney 6

ENCLOSURE No. 2.—Commissioners in Lunacy to the Colonial Office; March 22nd, 1883... 10

Sub-Enclosure.—Mr. Howell to the Commissioners in Lunacy; March 16th, 1883 ... *ib.*

NEW LUNATIC ASYLUM.

No. 1.

Governor Sir J. R. LONGDEN, K.C.M.G., to the Right Hon. the EARL OF KIMBERLEY.

The Pavilion, Kandy,
No. 524. 8th December, 1882.

MY LORD,—DURING the session of the Legislative Council in 1881, a lively discussion took place upon the vote for carrying on the works at the new Lunatic Asylum. The first pavilion, the central administration block, and the entrance block were then approaching completion, and the buildings were roundly declared to be altogether insufficient in certain respects, and inappropriate for the detention of lunatics. These objections received much support from Dr. Plaxton, the Medical Superintendent of the Asylum, who had expressed himself dissatisfied with the site of the building, the plan, and especially with the insufficiency, in his opinion, of the number of single rooms.

2. It was my intention to propose to accommodate the male patients temporarily on both floors of the pavilion No. 1, utilizing the proposed day-rooms as sleeping wards, pending the erection of another pavilion; and being desirous that Dr. Plaxton's objections to the plan should be fully heard and examined before another pavilion was commenced, I assented to a motion in Council for a Commission to inquire and report on the following questions:—

(a) How many patients can be accommodated in the buildings at the new Lunatic Asylum already completed or (actually) under construction? and

(b) What temporary modifications of the plans or additions thereto are desirable in order to accommodate the greatest number of patients in the buildings?

The following gentlemen were nominated to the Commission:—The Auditor-General, the Hon. W. W. Mitchell, M.L.C., the Director of Public Works, the Principal Civil Medical Officer, and the Principal of the Ceylon Medical College.

3. I enclose a copy of the report of the Commissioners, and of the correspondence and evidence and plans connected therewith.*

4. Before proceeding to discuss the points upon which I shall have to ask your Lordship for instructions, I would ask permission briefly to recapitulate the history of the building up to this time.

5. The old Lunatic Asylum being found insufficient in accommodation, and declared unsuitable in many respects, it was determined by the Government of Sir William Gregory, about seven years ago, that a new Lunatic Asylum ought to be built on a better site; and plans were prepared and submitted by my predecessor for a new building in 1876. These plans were not approved, and on my arrival in England in 1877, after my appointment to this Government, I was instructed to cause amended plans to be prepared, and the adoption of what is known as the pavilion system was strongly recommended. On my arrival in Ceylon in September, 1877, I took an early opportunity of visiting the old Lunatic Asylum, and satisfied myself both as to the necessity of additional accommodation and as to the inexpediency of building the new Asylum on the low ground occupied by the old one. In considering the plans on which the new Asylum should be built, regard had to be paid to the fact that although the number of patients then actually in the Asylum was only 250, the Census of 1871 had shown that there were in the Island no less than 3,319 insane people, and it was obvious that, for the sake of economy, the new building must be built on a design which would permit successive enlargements from time to time as the number of patients for whom accommodation was required increased. The pavilion system only appeared to fulfil this condition, and the plans for a new Asylum were prepared under the direction of Mr. Churchill, the Director of Public Works, on this system, and were laid before the then Secretary of State in my despatch No. 305, dated 7th September, 1878, accompanied by a report from the Principal Civil Medical Officer to whom the plans had been previously submitted.

6. I would call particular attention in passing to the criticism passed on the designs by the Principal Civil Medical Officer in the 9th paragraph of his letter. Dr. Kynsey remarked: "The "proportion of single rooms to association wards is too large—I consider they might safely be "reduced one-half. We are placing patients in seclusion less and less, and consequently the single "rooms will merely be required as sleeping rooms for dangerous or noisy lunatics." In my despatch (paragraph 4), while agreeing fully with Dr. Kynsey in the wise preference of association to seclusion in the treatment of the insane, I pointed out the wide difference there was between the inmates of a great English County Asylum and the inmates of the Ceylon Asylum. In the former, the patients are always men and women of the same race and national character, and generally speaking of much the same social standing and antecedents. The patients in the Ceylon Asylum are men and women of different races—European, Sinhalese, or Tamil. There are immense and often antagonistic varieties of caste, religion, manners, and social antecedents to be considered,

* See Sessional Paper No. XXII of 1882.

and, therefore, notwithstanding Dr. Kynsey's criticism, I did not propose any reduction in the number of single rooms.

7. The plans of the new Asylum were approved by Sir M. E. Hicks-Beach in his despatch No. 297, dated 25th November, 1878, who at the same time transmitted a Minute by Captain Ommanney containing some valuable criticisms on the plans, which were communicated to the Director of Public Works for his guidance.

8. A site having been selected on the eastern side of the Cinnamon Gardens, three miles and a-half from the Fort of Colombo, and about five hundred yards distant from any residences, the building was commenced early in 1879, as soon as possible after the plans had been approved.

9. In 1878 the late Medical Superintendent of the Lunatic Asylum died, and in order to improve the management of the institution and bring it more into accordance with the principles on which English Asylums are managed, I suggested to your Lordship's predecessor that instead of following the usual practice and appointing a new Medical Superintendent from the local staff of the Civil Medical Department, a gentleman should be selected in England who had made lunacy his special study, and had a practical acquaintance with the management of English Asylums. The Secretary of State approved my suggestion and appointed Dr. Plaxton, who arrived in the Colony early in 1879, after the plans of the new Asylum had been approved, the site obtained, and contracts made for the buildings to be erected first.

10. Having laid the plans in the utmost detail before the Secretary of State, I did not think it necessary to lay them again officially before the newly-arrived Medical Superintendent, since the effect of such a proceeding would have been practically to subordinate the opinion of the Secretary of State to that of Dr. Plaxton, but of course they were open to his inspection. In May, 1880, he submitted a report on the new buildings generally, in which he found much fault with the site because the elevation was small and the land undrained. He considered the area enclosed within the walls (14 acres) too small, and thought the position objectionable because it was likely to become "more and more enclosed by buildings." With regard to the buildings themselves he pointed out (as Captain Ommanney had previously done) that the complete design showed the same accommodation for female patients as for male patients, whereas the number of males was usually double the number of females.* He also suggested several improvements as regards baths and latrines, which will be carried into effect before the buildings are occupied, and he called especial attention to one point which requires the most careful consideration, as affecting not only the fitting up of the new buildings, but the very principles upon which the institution is hereafter to be conducted. This is the number of single rooms for the isolation of patients. The number provided in the designs is at the rate of more than 10 per cent., even if, as proposed, the day rooms be used temporarily as wards. The Principal Civil Medical Officer, in his report on the designs, said that he thought that this might be reduced by one-half. Dr. Plaxton, on the other hand, thinks the number of single rooms much too small. He says in his report, that in designs for Lunatic Asylums that he has seen the proportion of single rooms varied from 40 to 24 per cent., and he believes 25 per cent. not too many here. At the time I received this report, which was transmitted to the Governor by the Principal Civil Medical Officer without remark, the buildings were in the hands of a contractor, who had made fair progress with the blocks that had been commenced. Any stoppage of his operations would have involved the Government in large and unnecessary expense for compensation. Many of the minor improvements suggested by Dr. Plaxton could only be carried out when the shell of the buildings was completed, and as to the substitution of single cells in great number for open wards, I was not prepared to assent to the change without your Lordship's permission, especially as the change was not supported here by the Principal Civil Medical Officer. I therefore took no immediate action upon Dr. Plaxton's report, but on my next visit to the old Asylum I informed him that his report had been laid before me, but that as the designs for the new buildings had been prepared before his (Dr. Plaxton's) arrival in the Colony on a system suggested by Her Majesty's Government, and had been approved by the Secretary of State, I could not suffer any material alteration to be made in the blocks under construction without communicating with your Lordship. I enclose a copy of Dr. Kynsey's letter covering Dr. Plaxton's report, and the report itself, together with a Minute I made upon it.

11. When the Commission referred to in the second paragraph of this despatch was appointed, Dr. Plaxton's views were fully explained by himself, and will be found in the evidence attached to the report of the Commission which I enclose.

12. The first attention of the Commission was very properly given to the alleged objection to the site on which the Asylum was built on account of its lying low. It was accordingly resolved, on the 29th November, to request the Director of Public Works to examine the grounds and report "the depth at which the water is now lying after yesterday's rain, whether all the surface water "can be drained off by surface drains," and "what is the distance to which surface water can be "conveyed by surface drains." The Director of Public Works reported as follows:—"On the "30th November, after a very heavy rainfall for some days previously, and especially on the night "before, I found the grounds about the new Lunatic Asylum quite free from water. . . . "All the water from the site of the Lunatic Asylum is drained off by the surface drains and the "brick drains, and led by a deep drain under the public road at the back of the Asylum for a long "distance through the fields into the stream that eventually falls into the Kelani river." The report of the Director of Public Works is printed *in extenso* in the enclosed Sessional Paper.† It disposes completely of the objections to the site based on the want of drainage.

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*The obvious conclusion is that it will not be necessary to build all the accommodation shown in the plan for females.

† See Sessional Paper No. XXII. of 1882, p. 12.

13. With regard to the site generally, I would here observe that it was chosen with great care, after consultation with the Principal Civil Medical Officer, and with his full approbation: that it lies on the outer edge of the Cinnamon Gardens, and that towards the south and east the site is surrounded by entirely open grass fields without any buildings. On the north and west lie the Cinnamon Gardens, which have for some years past been selected as building lands for villas and detached houses of a superior style, in which many of the principal officers of the Government, leading merchants, bankers and others prefer to live, notwithstanding the exorbitant rents charged for houses in this locality. More houses are still being built, but not within five hundred yards of the Asylum; and as the ground is the property of the Crown, such sufficient space can always be reserved round the Asylum as may be deemed necessary. I enclose a copy of the plan of the town of Colombo on which the site of the Lunatic Asylum is marked in red. In choosing this site in preference to one further away in the country, where more elevated ground might have been had, I was influenced by the vital necessity, as it appears to me, of locating the Asylum within such reasonable distance of Colombo as would enable it to be under the frequent supervision of the Principal Civil Medical Officer, and would also give to the Medical Superintendent the support and help, when necessary, of the medical staff in Colombo. My experience in colonies has convinced me that it is essential that a Lunatic Asylum should be so placed as to be easy of access of the seat of Government for the purpose of inspection, and that provided there be abundance of ventilation, good drainage, and sufficient grounds for industrial purposes, that site is best which allows the easiest access to it.

14. With regard to the buildings themselves, the members of the Commission have to a great extent been governed by Dr. Plaxton—and having no special knowledge of their own, justly so—but they are not unanimous, and submit their opinions separately. In considering these suggestions, it must be remembered that at present only the entrance block, the administration block (except a small portion), and one pavilion have been built; and the out-offices, including wash-house, dead-house, workshops, garden sheds, and recreation sheds have to be built. In the building of these the recommendations of Dr. Plaxton will of course be attended to, and so also in regard to the railings to verandahs, the window shades, the laying out of the grounds, and planting of shade trees, the protection of all windows and openings against the possibility of suicides—all these matters are being and will be duly attended to, and I may remark here that the necessary walls for enclosing the grounds, which have been under construction by prison labour, are nearly complete.

15. The one material point in which I feel that I ought not to adopt the recommendations of Dr. Plaxton and the Commissioners without consulting Your Lordship is in the provision of single rooms for one-fourth part of the patients. This indeed is, in Dr. Plaxton's opinion, a minimum, and he speaks approvingly of authorities which recommend the provision of single rooms for 40 per cent. of the patients. I need hardly say that this recommendation involves a total remodification of the plans of the parts of the Asylum hereafter to be built, while in regard to the pavilion already built any very large addition to the number of single rooms must affect the ventilation of the wards. Without disputing the weight of Dr. Plaxton's opinion and of the authorities cited by him, I cannot but remember that opinions as to the treatment of the insane differ widely, and that the general tendency of opinion is not in favour of the separate system. I cannot but remember my own experience in Demerara. In 1877 it was determined to build two additional wards in the Lunatic Asylum of that Colony. Under the advice of the then medical officers, both wards were fitted up entirely in separate rooms. One had been completed and was occupied, and the other was still in the carpenters' hands when Dr. Grieve was appointed by Your Lordship's predecessor to be Medical Superintendent of the British Guiana Asylum, and one of his first acts was to beg me to allow all the partitions in the ward still under construction to be taken down and the ward handed over for use as an open sleeping room for patients, like the ward of an ordinary hospital. Subsequently other parts of the buildings were treated in the same way, and all the money that had been expended in fitting up the single rooms was not only thrown away, but was actually the cause of great additional expense in their removal.

16. I cannot feel any certainty that if the plans of the new Asylum were modified in the way recommended by Dr. Plaxton a future Superintendent, desirous of working the Asylum according to the prevalent theory, might not improbably require the restoration of the building to the original design, and thus the Colony would be put to great and unnecessary expense. I would therefore suggest that the Lunacy Commissioners should be asked whether, in their opinion, the provision of single rooms made in the original designs is sufficient or not? and whether they think that provision ought to be made for the seclusion in separate rooms of a fourth of the whole number of patients.

17. If Dr. Grieve had been less successful in the treatment of the insane at British Guiana on the principle of allowing them to associate freely under proper supervision, I might have had less hesitation in adopting Dr. Plaxton's views; but I know from personal visits that Dr. Grieve's plan was most successful while I was in Demerara, and I believe from the papers that he has sent to me from time to time, that it has been equally successful since. Nor can it be said that there is any such difference between the numbers and general status of the patients as would make a mode of treatment applicable in British Guiana inapplicable in Ceylon. Indeed, in some points, the British Guiana Asylum is the one in which it might be supposed the association principle would be less successful than it would be here. The numbers are larger—359 in British Guiana against 252 in Ceylon—the races are even more antagonistic, comprising large numbers of African negroes and East Indian coolies, besides a few Europeans, Chinese and others. And I can therefore find no grounds in the condition of the patients for insisting on so much isolation.

18. I have felt it my duty to lay this question very fully before Your Lordship, for either I must, against my own deliberate judgment, consent to the alteration of the plans of the new

buildings, approved after full consideration by the Secretary of State, or I must appear to disregard the opinion of the officer appointed specially by the Secretary of State to superintend the Asylum, and by whose advice the Government should be guided.

19. There are one or two points in the report of the Commission that it may be right I should notice.

20. Mr. Mitchell, M.L.C., in his separate report condemns very strongly the "palatial character" of the new building. As compared with the filthy hovels which some of the insane poor inhabit, the building may certainly be called palatial; and I trust that when new asylums or hospitals are built in this or any other Colony, they will be an improvement on the huts of the native peasantry. The Asylum is a series of one-story buildings of the plainest type. The walls are of brick plastered, because in this climate plastering is found requisite for the preservation of the building. There is no expensive ornamentation, or indeed any ornament at all, unless a short, ungraceful and inexpensive tower over the entrance designed for a clock can be called an ornament. The clock-tower was shown in the original design. The enclosing walls are of the ordinary cabook, such as is universally used for garden walls in Colombo.

21. Mr. Mitchell further complains that "the local medical authorities who have been in "charge of lunatics in the Island do not appear to have been consulted, or if they have, their advice "has been disregarded." Previous to the appointment of Dr. Plaxton, the old Lunatic Asylum was always under the charge of one of the Colonial Surgeons or Assistant Colonial Surgeons of the Civil Medical Department, who was usually appointed by the Governor on the recommendation of the Principal Civil Medical Officer. When the construction of the new Lunatic Asylum was determined upon, the Principal Civil Medical Officer was consulted, and made an elaborate report, which was enclosed in Sir William Gregory's despatch No. 293, dated 26th September, 1876. When the second set of plans was being prepared, Dr. Kynsey was again consulted, and his second report was enclosed in my despatch No. 305, dated 7th September, 1878. As Dr. Kynsey commanded the services of all the medical officers who had been in charge of lunatics in the Island at the time the plans were prepared, Mr. Mitchell's remark is calculated to create a wrong impression. It is true that the plans of the present buildings were not sent to Dr. Plaxton, nor was he consulted upon them, for the all-sufficient reason that Dr. Plaxton did not arrive in the Colony until months after the plans had been completed and sent to England.

22. The original design, comprising an entrance block, administration block, and four pavilions, were estimated to cost a total of Rs. 675,240, and to hold a total of 540 patients, or more than double the existing number of patients. But as these designs were avowedly made in anticipation of future wants, it was agreed in the Legislative Council that only two out of the four pavilions should be built at once, and that the actual expenditure should be limited to Rs. 400,000. The entrance block, the greater part of the administration block, and the first of the four pavilions, for which there is room in the enclosure, have been completed. The walls are also nearly finished. The actual cost of the buildings thus far has been Rs. 275,152. It is estimated by the Commissioners (see page 15 of their Report) that the additional block required for female patients will cost Rs. 59,570, and that the walling and fittings required to complete the whole for occupation will cost a further sum of Rs. 53,572, making a total of Rs. 388,744. Much economy, I may observe, has been effected by the use of convict labour in the building of the enclosing walls.

23. As soon as I receive Your Lordship's decision upon Dr. Plaxton's proposal to increase the number of single rooms, I will proceed at once to have the No. 1 pavilion and rest of the building completed for the reception of male patients. In the meantime I have directed the Director of Public Works to complete the outer wall and such other work as will not be affected whatever the decision may be as to the point under reference.

I have, &c.,
J. R. LONGDEN.

No. 2.

The Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY to Governor Sir J. R. LONGDEN, G.C.M.G.

No. 204.—*Ceylon.* Downing-street, 18th June, 1883.

SIR,—I HAVE had under my careful consideration your despatch No. 524 of the 8th December last, enclosing a report by Dr. Plaxton, the Medical Superintendent of the Colombo Lunatic Asylum, on the approved plans for that building, and the report of a Commission appointed to consider the appropriation of the portion of the new Asylum which has already been built in accordance with those plans.

I have referred the whole of these papers, together with a Minute by Mr. Ommanney, of which a copy is enclosed, to the Commissioners in Lunacy, in compliance with the suggestion contained in the 16th paragraph of your despatch, and I enclose a copy of the Commissioners' letter, and of the report of their Consulting Architect which accompanied it.

2. The Commissioners in Lunacy have directed their attention mainly to the criticisms on the new Asylum contained in Dr. Plaxton's report of the 30th April, 1880, in which the site selected is condemned as being too restricted in area, objectionable on account of its position and surroundings, and unsuitable for its purpose from the difficulty of obtaining complete surface or subsoil drainage.

The approved plans are considered by Dr. Plaxton to provide most inadequately for the necessary classification of patients, to afford no facilities for administration, and to be specially

deficient in the provision of single rooms. On all these points the Commissioners in Lunacy consider that Dr. Plaxton's criticisms are sound, except as regards the proportion of single rooms, which they would, for the present, propose to fix at 20 per cent. of the asylum population—a number which, though greatly less than that advocated by Dr. Plaxton, still involves a substantial increase in the accommodation of this class which the approved plans provide.

3. I referred these questions to the Commissioners in Lunacy with great hesitation, and in deference solely to the desire expressed in your despatch. I was aware that the conditions which govern the design of all buildings in the tropics are of an exceptional nature, and that the opinion of the highest authorities, whose experience has been limited to temperate climates, is of little assistance in determining the arrangements which should be adopted in dealing with cases of which the circumstances differ in all essentials from those which come under their notice. I had not forgotten that, on a former occasion, when the first set of plans for this Asylum, prepared under the directions of your predecessor, was submitted to the Commissioners, they expressed their sense of the difficulty which they felt in "reporting upon plans for an asylum to be inhabited and constructed under conditions of climate and habits so different to those of this country." It appeared to me probable that the result of the reference under such conditions would be rather to increase, than to diminish, the difficulty in which you are already placed, and that the views of the Commissioners and of their Consulting Architect, invaluable as they would be in relation to the design for an English hospital, could not with equal advantage be relied on as authoritative in dealing with that of a similar institution in Ceylon. The most cursory examination of the plans of the Asylum which are contained in the Blue Book forwarded by the Commissioners, will show how entirely unfitted for adoption in the tropics are the plans which satisfy the conditions prevailing at home. In fact the particular plan which is specially referred to by the Commissioners as a good example of an epileptic and suicidal ward is designed on a principle which appears to be open to grave objection. It shows a ward of excessive width, having four rows of beds between the opposite walls—an arrangement which, for reasons of economy, was introduced many years ago both in this country and on the continent, but which has since been condemned by the highest sanitary authorities as unsuited to buildings intended for the occupation of even completely healthy persons.

4. It appears to me, from the above considerations, that the report of the Commissioners in Lunacy on this subject is not calculated to render you material assistance. However this may be, some of their principal objections seem to me either to have been already met by you in your despatch, or to be of a nature which admits of their being disposed of without serious difficulty.

First, as regards the position of the site, I concur with you in attaching great importance to securing ready access for the officers of the Government to such institutions as Colonial Lunatic Asylums, and as this essential condition rendered it impossible to include within the area of selection sites at a distance from Colombo, the position which has been chosen seems to me to be the best which was available.

Secondly, the area to be devoted to the use of the Asylum is undoubtedly more restricted than would be considered desirable in the case of an asylum of similar size in this country, and it is possible that the habits of the native races may not admit of the employment of the inmates of the Colombo Asylum about the grounds of the establishment to the same extent as is found to be desirable here. But, as you have pointed out in the 13th paragraph of your despatch, the adjacent land is all Crown land, of which any required area can be reserved, and it will, in all the circumstances, be desirable to set apart for the use of the Asylum a larger area than has hitherto been proposed—certainly not less than 50 acres, although at present and until it is shown how much of this land can really be utilized, it will not be necessary to incur the very considerable expense of enclosing the whole of it with a wall. As to the surroundings of the site to which exception is taken, and more particularly the roads encircling the Asylum, I gather from the plans that the only roads actually existing are the roadway of approach and the main road behind the Asylum, the roads round the walls being a part of the proposed works which need not be carried into execution.

On the question of the drainage of the site I am, with you, disposed to attach greater weight to the opinion of the Director of Works than to that of the Medical Superintendent, assuming as a matter of course that the officers of the Public Works Department are competent to lay down a system of pipe drainage for the removal of the sewage of the Asylum in accordance with the rules of modern sanitation.

5. It yet remains to consider the two most important points referred to in your despatch, namely, the extent to which the approved plans provide for the necessary classification of the inmates, and the proportion of single rooms. The Consulting Architect to the Commissioners does not consider that the approved plans afford sufficient means of classification according to the English standard, but he thinks that the alterations required to remedy this could be made without abandoning the block plan or in any way interfering with the external or internal circulation of air. But he does not state, except in the most general terms, how this is to be done, and I observe that every scheme of alteration which has hitherto been proposed has been an abandonment, more or less complete, of the approved block plan, and has involved at once serious departures from the principles of tropical design and a largely increased expenditure. The most notable example is Dr. Plaxton's proposed plan, of which the cost is estimated at Rs. 2,160 per head, against Rs. 675,—the cost per head of the ward accommodation in the approved plans.

6. These plans were sanctioned, not because they furnished a complete solution of the question of classification in a tropical Lunatic Asylum, but because they represented a building which might be expected to prove healthy when occupied, under tropical conditions, by large numbers of lunatics, and because, in respect of facilities for administration and even for classification, they appeared to secure as great an advance on previous practice, either in Ceylon or in

India, as was to be obtained within reasonable limits of cost. The result of the ample consideration which the whole question of this design has since received, is to confirm the view that an asylum which provides fully for all the requirements as regards classification and administration prescribed by the most modern English practice, and at the same time satisfies completely all the complicated local conditions prevailing in Ceylon, is only to be obtained at the cost of an increase of expenditure—probably not less than three times that contemplated for the approved plans.

It is for your Legislative Council to consider whether the present financial condition of the Island would justify the expenditure which would have to be incurred, or whether they will be content to adhere in all essentials to the design which has received the approval of those who possess prolonged local experience both of tropical construction and the treatment of native lunatics.

7. If, as I apprehend, it is out of the question to add largely to the cost of this building, there is, it appears to me, no option but to revert to the position accepted by my predecessor when he gave his approval to this design, and to remain satisfied with what is admittedly a partial solution of the question. And if something has to be dispensed with which might contribute to the completeness of the design, there is, in my opinion, no question but that mere administrative facilities should give way to conditions essential to the healthiness of the building, and that consequently the approved design should be followed in the extension and completion of the Asylum.

8. As regards the question of the proportion of single rooms, I fully recognize the force of the objections which you urge to any large increase in the number of these rooms, the introduction of which into tropical designs is invariably attended with much difficulty and with the risk of impeding free internal air circulation. Moreover, I am not convinced that so large a percentage of single rooms as that advocated by Dr. Plaxton is by any means the rule even in this country, especially in asylums of a class similar to that at Colombo. At the same time it is desirable to afford Dr. Plaxton every reasonable facility for carrying to a successful issue the duty which has been entrusted to him, and therefore I am prepared, with your concurrence, to sanction an increase of the single room accommodation to the extent recommended by the Commissioners in Lunacy, namely, twenty per cent. on the entire asylum population, provided the extra rooms can be added without interfering with sanitary considerations and without material increase of cost.

9. The proposals, both of Dr. Plaxton and of the Committee, as to the mode of accommodating the present inmates of the Borella Asylum in the new establishment involves a considerable increase in the cost per inmate, as compared with that at which the buildings have been erected in accordance with the approved plans, and this being so, there is, it appears to me, no advantage to be gained by discussing the details of these proposals, which are, however, open in many respects to grave objection. Whatever additions are immediately necessary must, if the financial considerations to which I have alluded lead to the conclusion that the building is to be completed in accordance with the approved plans, be made by adding either one or both of the pair of pavilions on the right of the central block.

10. In conclusion, it appears to me probable that the only method of procedure which, due regard being had to the necessity of imposing strict limits to the expenditure on this work, it will be found practicable to follow, will be one closely resembling that suggested in Mr. Ommanney's memorandum, subject to the adoption in minor matters of detail of any suggestions of Dr. Plaxton's which may be found not to involve expense or a departure in any essential respects from the approved plans.

I have, &c.,
DERBY.

Enclosure No. 1 in No. 2.

MINUTE BY MR. OMMANNEY.

IN the 14th paragraph of this despatch, Sir J. Longden states that the Commission has been, to a great extent, governed by Dr. Plaxton—and having no special knowledge of their own, rightly so. The objections which have been raised to the new buildings—apart from those of Mr. Mitchell to the "palatial character" of the design, into which it does not seem necessary to enter—may therefore be regarded as the expression of Dr. Plaxton's individual views, and, in dealing with them, it appears to me essential to point out that he has approached his subject solely from the standpoint of his home experience. I find nothing in his evidence to show that he has given due weight to the widely-differing conditions which govern the design of buildings in England and in the tropics, and which apply in their fullest force to the case of buildings such as hospitals, prisons, and asylums in which large numbers are collected under circumstances but little favourable to the maintenance of a satisfactory sanitary condition. His references are solely to English or Scotch instances, and his proposed plan is a reproduction of the ordinary modern type of English Asylums. He does not appear to me to be conscious of the fundamental principles on which the success of tropical buildings depends, and in the suggestions made for the future extension of the buildings and for the appropriation of those already built, matters of such vital importance as the arrangement of the block plan so as to secure the greatest benefit from favourable aspects and prevailing winds, simplicity in the disposition of the parts of the building so as not to impede either external or internal circulation of air, and the careful isolation of possible sources of nuisance, appear to have been lost sight of.

It is to this want of tropical experience that I attribute in great part Dr. Plaxton's advocacy of a large number of single rooms. It is, I believe, impossible to introduce many single rooms without interfering with the free movement of the air within the building, unless the

question of expense is to be entirely disregarded; and the new buildings if cut up by partitions in all directions, as suggested, will in some parts be simply uninhabitable.

Sir J. Longden, in the 15th, 16th and 17th paragraphs of this despatch, states other and forcible objections to the proposed multiplication of single rooms; but even if, on general grounds, it were desirable to follow in this particular the practice of our home asylums, I do not think that Dr. Plaxton's figures accurately represent what that practice is. He states in his evidence that he considers 25 per cent. of single rooms the minimum, and that every additional single room would be a gain, and he quotes with approval Conolly and Clouston, who recommend 66 per cent. and 40 per cent., respectively.

I have examined the plans of lunatic asylums given in some recent reports of the Commissioners in Lunacy as good examples of recent asylum construction, and the following are the proportions of single rooms in the more important cases:—

	No. of Beds.	No. of Single Rooms.	Per cent.
East Riding of Yorkshire ...	300 ...	65 ...	21·6
Newcastle-on-Tyne ...	270 ...	68 ...	25·16
Berks, Reading and Newbury ...	285 ...	62 ...	21·7
Hereford County Asylum ...	412 ...	86 ...	20·8

These are not specially selected examples, and it will be observed that in one case only is Dr. Plaxton's minimum of 25 per cent. reached, while in none are the higher ratios which he quotes even approached.

I may add that in the "Instructions to Architects" issued by the Commissioners in Lunacy, it is stated that the proportion of single rooms "need not exceed one-fourth." It appears to me, therefore, that Dr. Plaxton's contention that this proportion should be considered a minimum, and that so great a number as 66 or 40 per cent. would be preferable, is not supported either by general practice at home or by the instructions of the Commissioners in Lunacy.

Moreover, I believe Sir James Longden to be quite correct in stating that the tendency of modern practice is yearly more and more in the direction of treating lunatics in association rather than in isolation.

On the question, therefore, of any considerable multiplication of single rooms, I think the position taken up by Sir J. Longden is sound. At the same time, the single rooms which are provided in the original design are not in the most convenient position, inasmuch as they are on the ground floor, while the bulk of the sleeping accommodation is on the first floor. For this reason, and with the object of meeting to a reasonable extent, and so far as will not interfere with conditions essential to the healthiness of the buildings, the views of the Superintendent on whom the responsibility for the administration of the Asylum rests, I would add somewhat to the number of single rooms at his disposal.

I would do this by converting each of the 12-bed wards on the first floors of pavilions A., D., E. and F. (general plan) into five single rooms, and in pavilions B., C., G. and H. I would place the single rooms on the first floor only, with a 12-bed ward under each set of five. As only pavilions A. and D. are built, this will involve little increase of cost or interference with the design. It will give 80 single rooms, or close on 20 per cent. on the asylum population (against about 6 per cent. in the existing Asylum at Borella), and will reduce the associated accommodation by 28 beds. The space available for day-rooms will be trenched upon to this extent, say three rooms, but the design provides on an unusually liberal scale for day-rooms, and the loss will not be felt.

Passing now to the question of the best mode of appropriating the portions of the original design which have been completed, the suggestions which have been made for this purpose amount in effect to a complete abandonment of that design, and it seems to be necessary, before proceeding further, to decide whether or not the approved plans are to be adhered to in essentials.

The following are the grounds on which it appeared to me that this design, which had been prepared in accordance with the views of the Principal Civil Medical Officer and other experienced local authorities, might be approved by the Secretary of State:—

(1) That the pavilion system, on which the design is based, secures the greatest amount of external circulation of air about the buildings, and enables every part to profit by the prevailing winds.

(2) That while the whole of the inmates are practically under one roof, each pavilion is to a considerable extent isolated—an immense advantage in the case of such epidemics as have not unfrequently raised the death-rate in Indian Asylums as high as 25, and in some cases as 36 per cent., of the daily average strength.

(3) That the design can be carried out by instalments as parts of one consistent whole.

(4) That all parts of the establishment are accessible to the superintending officials without exposure to the weather, and that the arrangement of offices, stores, quarters, work-rooms, &c., in a central block is well adapted to the general requirements of administration.

(5) That the internal arrangements of the buildings are simple, and therefore suitable to the climate, interfering as little as possible with the internal circulation of air, while the latrines and other sanitary arrangements are so situated as not to be likely to prove dangerous; and lastly,

(6) That the buildings are well adapted to the reception of lunatics, and admit, *within possible limits of expenditure*, of all reasonable classification.

I do not think that the first five of these contentions have been questioned. All important as they are, they appear to have been practically lost sight of by the Commission, and the only point on which I have to join issue with the Commission and Dr. Plaxton is the sixth.

The importance of a good classification of lunatics has never been lost sight of in dealing with the question of this Asylum. In my Minute on the design (13,079/78) I expressly referred to this subject, recognizing the difficulty of working up to the full theoretical standard, but adding that, even in this respect, the Asylum would be a great advance on anything yet done in the East.

The buildings are intended for 400 patients (exclusive of recent admissions in the entrance block) distributed in eight pavilions, each containing three 10-bed wards, one 12-bed ward, and seven single rooms. After a careful examination of the reports and returns of asylums in the three Indian Presidencies, in the North-West Provinces and in Rangoon, and with some knowledge of the plans of asylums in tropical colonies, I believe there is no instance in the East of such ample means of classification being placed at the disposal of the Superintendent of a Lunatic Asylum. Whether this be so or not, they are certainly sufficient for the classification they were intended to provide, which is that sanctioned by the Commissioners in Lunacy in their "Instructions to Architects." In those instructions it is stated that provision should be made for the following classes in each sex:—

Sick ...	...	15 per cent.
Recent and acute cases	...	20 ,,
Working, quiet, and chronic	...	65 ,,

with a small reception department for each sex where new admissions can be under observation.

The design being for a population of 400, with the sexes in equal proportions, I propose to show what degree of classification is possible on the male side of the Asylum, assuming the number of single rooms to be increased as I have suggested. Out of the 200 males, 10 per cent. (the proportion at present is a little over 9 per cent.) may be taken to be Europeans. It is quite impracticable to break up this small number of 20 Europeans into classes, and to provide separate accommodation for each of the diminutive sub-divisions which would be thus created. I propose to meet this case by allowing a liberal margin of space in the wards and single rooms allotted to them.

As regards the 180 native males, the classification would be as follows:—

Sick, fifteen per cent. ...	...	27 patients
Recent and acute, twenty per cent.	...	36 ,,
Working, quiet, and chronic	...	117 ,,
	Total ...	180 patients

and, on this classification, the male side of the Asylum might be allotted to its occupants in the following manner:—

Male side (see General Plan).

Class of Patients.	Part of Asylum allotted to class.	Detail of accommodation.	Day and spare rooms.	Percentage of single rooms to each class.
20 Europeans ...	Pavilion A.—First floor ...	15 in association ... 5 in single rooms ...	1 day-room ... 1 spare single...	33
Natives.				
27 sick ...	Pavilion B.—First floor ...	20 in association ... 7 in single rooms ...	1 day-room ...	35
36 recent and acute ...	Pavilion C.—First floor ...	29 in association ... 7 in single rooms ...	—	24
117 chronic and quiet ...	Pavilion D.—Both floors ...	40 in association ... 10 in single rooms ...	2 day-rooms ... 2 spare single...	16
	Pavilion A.—Ground floor...	30 in association ... 6 in single rooms ...	—	
	Pavilion B.—Ground floor...	30 in association ... 1 in single room ...	1 day room ..	

The classification on the female side would be the same.

If, however, as is in fact most probable, the sexes were in unequal proportions, six pavilions might be allotted to the males and two to the females, and a classification of the same character, on the basis of 300 males and 100 females, would be quite practicable, the variable throughout being the amount of accommodation left at disposal for day-room purposes.

It is true that this classification is simpler than that proposed by Dr. Plaxton. The subdivision of lunatics may, however, be developed to almost any extent, and I have known instances in which as many as eight and ten classes have been advocated. From the point of view of expense alone, Dr. Plaxton's classification is simply unattainable. His plan, prepared as it is, without regard to tropical conditions, is estimated to cost, after allowing for convict labour, Rs. 2,160 per head, and a building to meet his requirements and be at the same time habitable in Ceylon would cost a much larger sum. The pavilions of the approved design (excluding, as in Dr. Plaxton's plan, the administrative portion of the Asylum) appear to have cost about Rs. 600 a head, the total cost (administration and wards) having been originally estimated at Rs. 1,250 per head.

The approved design has thus, I venture to think, been shown to provide for all necessary classification, and to do so at a cost which is within the limits of possible expenditure, while at

the same time it satisfies those conditions which are of the first importance in tropical design. It appears to me, therefore, that it should be closely adhered to in all essentials, and that no arrangements for the occupation of the buildings now completed should be sanctioned which involve a material departure from it.

It is not possible to accommodate in the new buildings the 164 males and eighty-eight females now at Borella, and I concur with the Commission in thinking that another block should be erected; but I think that it should be in accordance with the approved design, except that there should be single rooms on the ends of both floors.

It is useless to enter in detail into the proposed allotment of the buildings now completed. It is based throughout on the necessity of a very large proportion of single rooms, which are obtained at the sacrifice of the internal circulation of air in a great part of the building. The excessive multiplication of latrines, in positions which are in many cases objectionable, is a part of the proposed alteration which would undoubtedly contribute to the unhealthy condition of the building.

Assuming the central block and four pavilions, A., D., E. and F. (general plan) to be built, the classification and allotment might be as follows:—

Male side.	*Female side.*
15 Europeans	4 Europeans
149 Natives	84 Natives
164	88

the natives being grouped in the following classes:—

Males.	*Females.*
23 sick	15 sick
30 recent and acute	17 recent and acute
96 chronic and quiet	52 chronic and quiet
149	84

the accommodation being allotted as under:—

European.

Males, 15.—First floor of right wing of centre building, in two rooms converted into three single rooms, and one 12-bed ward; one day-room.

Females, 4.—In one single room, and one 10-bed ward on first floor of pavilion E. The 10-bed ward divided in two for a 4-bed ward and day room.

Natives.

Class of Patients.	Part of Asylum allotted.	Detail of Accommodation.	Day and spare rooms.	Percentage of single rooms to class.
Males.				
23 sick	Pavilion A.—First floor ...	5 in single rooms ... 18 in association ...	1 day-room ... 1 spare single .	28
30 recent and chronic ...	Pavilion D.—First floor ...	5 in single rooms ... 25 in association ...	1 spare single...	20
96 chronic and quiet ...	Pavilions A. and D.—Ground floor	12 in single rooms ... 40 in association ...	2 day-rooms ...	14
	Left-wing of centre, both floors.	44 in association ...	2 day-rooms ...	
Females.				
15 sick	Pavilion E.—First floor ...	5 in single rooms .. 10 in association ...	1 day-room ...	50
17 recent and acute ...	Pavilion F.—First floor ...	5 in single rooms ... 12 in association ...	1 day-room ...	41
52 chronic and quiet ...	Pavilions E. and F.—Ground floor	12 in single rooms ... 40 in association ...	2 day-rooms ...	30

By this allotment the whole of the middle portion of the central block and the ground floor of the right wing of that block will remain available for administrative and other purposes.

The only other point connected with the occupation of these buildings to which it seems necessary to refer, is the distribution of baths and latrines. In the original design this was arranged, except the latrines for night use and a part of the bath accommodation, in detached buildings. I assumed that this arrangement was that which the local medical authorities considered best suited to the habits of the natives, and it is that which prevails in Indian asylums; from a sanitary point of view, it was certainly an excellent plan. It is now proposed, however, to distribute the latrines throughout the buildings, in positions which appear to me, in many cases, dangerous. It probably is necessary to provide more accommodation of this nature in direct connection with the wards than was originally contemplated, and there is no objection to placing latrines in such a position at the angle at the end of a pavilion as that indicated on plan A. of the

proposed alteration. Any baths and latrines rendered necessary by the temporary occupation of the central block by patients should be built out from the middle of the rear corridor, with proper separating lobbies. The detached latrine accommodation, which should be the rule wherever possible, will probably be more conveniently arranged in one building to each pavilion, instead of one to each pair of pavilions.

I am sorry that my Minute should have run to so great a length, but there seems to me to be some danger lest the conditions essential to the success of this Asylum should be sacrificed in the attempt to attain to a theoretical perfection in matters of organization and classification, and I have thought it best to go fully into details. And I must also express my regret at my inability to return the papers sooner. I was anxious to refer to the plans of some of the large Indian asylums, but after some loss of time, I find that they are not to be obtained in this country.

Enclosure No. 2 in No. 2.

COMMISSIONERS IN LUNACY to the COLONIAL OFFICE.

Office of Commissioners in Lunacy,
19, Whitehall Place, S.W.,
22nd March, 1883.

SIR,—I AM directed by the Commissioners in Lunacy to state, for the information of Lord Derby, that they have read and considered your letter, dated the 5th instant, as to the new Lunatic Asylum in course of erection at Colombo, together with the despatch of Sir James Longden, the reports of Mr. Plaxton, and of the new Lunatic Asylum Commissioners, and the Minute of Captain Ommanney. They have looked at the plans which accompanied your letter, and they have also requested their Consulting Architect, Mr. C. H. Howell, to examine the drawings and documents, and to report to them thereon. A copy of his report is herewith transmitted.

The Commissioners concur generally in the views and observations made by Mr. Howell, whose experience has been long and large as regards asylum design and construction in England.

After full consideration of the subject, the Commissioners desire to offer the following observations:—

1. The site of the new Asylum appears to be very objectionable in character, and too limited in extent. If, owing to financial reasons, it cannot now be abandoned, it appears to be essential that the drainage should be made satisfactory, and provision made for getting thoroughly rid of all foul water from baths, sinks, lavatories, kitchen, sculleries, &c.

The total area of the land to be exclusively devoted to the Asylum purposes should be largely increased so as to afford adequate means for the exercise and employment of the patients, and so as to admit of the diversion of the public roads to a greater distance from the buildings, thus providing against the wards and airing courts being overlooked by passers by, and at the same time affording the opportunity for further extending the Asylum should such a step at a future time become necessary.

2. The plans for the new Asylum as designed and partially executed appear to be very defective in several matters essential for the proper classification and treatment of insane patients.

Mr. Howell has dealt very fully with this part of the subject in his report, and the Commissioners agree with the views expressed by him. They think, however, that in the first instance a proportion of 20 per cent. of single rooms (properly placed) might be tried, but the plan should be arranged so that the proportion could at a future time be extended so as to raise the proportion to 25 per cent. The Commissioners, however, do not think that the position in which Captain Ommanney proposes to add the single rooms will meet the requirements as regards the classification of the patients, more especially in respect of the more excited classes. On this matter due weight will no doubt be given to Mr. Plaxton's opinion.

3. Provision should be made in wards suitably arranged for the continuous supervision by attendants of the epileptic and suicidal patients, both at night as well as by day. A comparatively inexpensive arrangement of wards for these classes (also not ill-suited for the sick) and which has proved satisfactory in English experience, will be found in the appendix to the 28th Report of the Commissioners in Lunacy, a copy of which is herewith transmitted.

I return herewith the whole of the plans and paper which accompanied your letter of the 5th instant.

I am, &c.,
CHAS. SP. PERCEVAL,
Secretary.

Sub-Enclosure in Enclosure 2 in No. 2.

MR. HOWELL to the COMMISSIONERS IN LUNACY.

3, Lancaster Place, Strand,
March 16th, 1883.

New Lunatic Asylum, Colombo.

SIR,—IN compliance with the instructions of the Commissioners, I have examined the plans and have read the accompanying papers, including Sir James Longden's despatch, Mr. Plaxton's report, the report of the new Lunatic Asylum Commissioners, and the memorandum by Captain Ommanney.

The principal points at issue are:—

1. The objections to the site.
2. The failure of the plans to provide for a proper classification of the patients.
3. The number of single rooms that should be provided.

1. Mr. Plaxton states, with regard to the site, that "the elevation is small, much of the surrounding land is under water twice a year in the rainy season, and for some time after; there is swampy ground in the rear within 250 yards of the building." He also complains that the ground is undrained, that the water stands within 26 inches of the surface, that the soil is deficient in oxidizing power, that the area is too limited, and is surrounded by public roads. Sir James Longden is aware of many of these disadvantages, and admits that a more elevated site might be obtained a few miles out of Colombo; but thinks that the report of the Director of Public Works disposes completely of the objections to the site based on the want of drainage. The report referred to does not, in my opinion, justify such a conclusion, for it proves only that the surface is drained, and that on the day of the examination water was found within four feet of the surface, while in other portions of the Cinnamon Gardens it was only a few inches below the surface. The first requisition in the printed instructions of the Commissioners in Lunacy is that the site of an asylum should be of a perfectly healthy character, and offer facilities for obtaining a complete system of subsoil drainage. Whenever I have been consulted in the selection of a site for an asylum, I have invariably rejected offers of land where the natural water level is near the surface, and if this is a matter of primary importance in England, it must be of still more vital consequence in a tropical station. The limited area of the site (14 acres in all, leaving less than 9 acres for cultivation), and the disturbance and excitement to which the patients will be subject from the public roads are serious objections, and after due consideration I can only arrive at the conclusion that regard has been paid more to convenience than to health in the selection of a site, which, excepting its proximity to the town, is in every respect unsuitable for an asylum. I may here observe that in Captain Ommanney's Minute there is no reference to the site.

2. In his comments on the plans, Mr. Plaxton complains that no provision is made for a proper classification of the patients. I venture to say that not only in Europe, but in every part of the world, lunatics are composed of the following classes:—

1.—The sick and infirm.
2.—Epileptics.
3.—Recent and acute cases.
4.—Chronic, working, and quiet cases.

In Ceylon, besides these four classes, there is the necessity of providing a small separate ward on each side of the building for Europeans. For the effectual and economical treatment of the insane, each ward should be adapted to the class of patients it is intended to receive, and I am convinced it would be a serious mistake to build any asylum on the pavilion or any other system with all the wards alike. Captain Ommanney's Minute does not appear to reach the point, as the necessary alterations might be made without abandoning the block plan or in any way interfering with the circulation of air either inside or outside the building. I cannot conceive any design more opposed to principle and practical experience, than an asylum with all the wards on the same plan, and without alterations beyond those proposed, no satisfactory result can, I fear, be expected. I think the question as to classification might in a measure be solved, without any great structural difficulty, by dividing each pavilion into two wards, one on either side of the staircase. Each ward should be self-contained, with its own latrines, lavatories, and slop-sinks. This would admit of the patients being divided into four classes, with different arrangements to suit each class. For some of the classes, instead of having the day-rooms entirely on the ground floor, it would be an advantage to have the day and sleeping rooms on the same floor. Baths would have to be provided in the wards for the sick and infirm, and on each side of the building there should be a general bath-room for the other patients. The workshops and stores which come between the central offices and the wards on the male and female sides occupy a space which might with advantage be appropriated to patients, and will interfere with the proper separation of the sexes, as both the male and female patients and attendants have to pass them to reach the kitchen and other offices.

3. I have never advocated a very exact classification of lunatics or the provision of a large proportion of single rooms; and although I am unable to concur in all Captain Ommanney's conclusions, the circumstance that I designed two of the four asylums to which he refers in support of his recommendations may be taken as evidence that I do not hold any extreme views on the subject. Referring to the plans and reports, I find that according to the original design single rooms are provided for 14·5 per cent. of the patients. Mr. Plaxton considers the number insufficient, and thinks that 25 per cent., or one-fourth, would be the proper proportion. Captain Ommanney proposes to raise the number of single rooms from 10 to 20 per cent., or one-fifth. If the Asylum were to be built in England, I should probably have been of the same opinion, but there are special circumstances in the case of the Asylum in Ceylon which ought not to be disregarded, and which tend to prove that 25 per cent. would not be too high a proportion of single persons. In page 14 of his report, Sir James Longden points to the difference between the inmates of an English County Asylum and the inmates of the Ceylon Asylum. He says: "In the former, the patients are always men and women of the same race and national character, and generally speaking of much the same social standing and antecedents. The patients in the Ceylon Asylum are men and women of different races—European, Siphalese, or Tamil. There are immense and often antagonistic varieties of caste, religion, manners, and social antecedents to be considered." The Ceylon Commissioners also refer to the subject in the following words: "It should be remembered in considering the requirements of an asylum in Ceylon, as compared with

one in England, that in the former the proportion of excited and dangerous classes treated in the Asylum is probably greater than in the latter, even when the relative temperaments of the people of the two countries are duly considered, because whereas in England nearly all persons of unsound mind are treated in asylums, public or private, in Ceylon it is chiefly those who are either excited or dangerous, or troublesome to their friends, who are treated in the one existing asylum—that is in the public Government Asylum,—the comparatively harmless being treated by their friends."

"The Census of 1881, which purports to show that there are 3,103 persons of unsound mind in the Island (although it is possible that this number should be accepted with some caution), while the population of the Asylum numbers 255 only, clearly demonstrates this. Under the circumstances, the Commissioners feel that in accepting 25 per cent. as the proportion of separate accommodation that should be provided in the new Lunatic Asylum, they have adopted a proportion that as nearly as possible is calculated to meet the necessities of the case."

With this evidence before me, I am not disposed to incur the responsibility and risk of recommending less than 25 per cent. of single rooms. In Surrey and Middlesex, since the removal of the quiet and harmless cases to the Metropolitan Asylums at Leavesden and Caterham, it has recently been found necessary to increase the number of single rooms in the County Asylums; and there can be no doubt that if less than one-tenth of the lunatics in Ceylon are sent to the Asylum, that most of the quiet patients must be under the charge of their friends, and the majority of those under treatment in the Asylum are either dangerous or troublesome lunatics, for whom it would not be safe to provide only the average number of single rooms.

Although in this respect I have confined myself to the principal points at issue, and have not referred to many minor matters of detail, I trust that what I have written will satisfy the Commissioners that I am unable to advise them to sanction, with their approval, the scheme submitted until some attempt has been made to remedy the defects I have pointed out.

I return the plans and papers herewith.

I am, &c.,

C. H. HOWELL.

X.—1883.

PUBLIC INSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT.

REVISED CODE FOR AIDED SCHOOLS, 1884,

TOGETHER WITH

A NOTIFICATION OF AMENDMENTS,

PREPARED BY

THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

Ordered by His Excellency the Lieut.-Governor to be Printed.

Colombo:

FRANK LUKER, ACTING GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1883.

CODE FOR AIDED SCHOOLS, 1884.

PRELIMINARY CHAPTER.

1. A sum of money is annually voted for grants-in-aid.

2. These grants are administered by the Department of Public Instruction, hereinafter called the Department.

3. The object of the grant is to *aid* local exertion, under certain conditions : (*a*) to maintain schools ; and (*b*) to train teachers.

4. Aid to maintain schools is given by annual grants to the managers, conditional upon the attendance and proficiency of the scholars, and the state of the schools.

5. No grant is made in respect of any instruction in religious subjects.

6. Officers are employed to verify the fulfilment of the conditions on which grants are made, and to report the results to the department. For the convenience of managers the instructions of the department, issued to these officers, will be published annually as an appendix to the rules and regulations for grants-in-aid, hereinafter called the code.

7. These officers are appointed by Government and are called inspectors or assistant inspectors.

8. No grant is paid except on a report from one of these officers that the conditions of the grant have been fulfilled.

9. The department, at the time of agreeing to make grants to schools, informs the managers in what month to look for the inspector's annual visit. This month remains the same from year to year, unless the department informs the managers of a change. Notice of the day of the inspector's annual visit is given beforehand to the managers.

10. An inspector, or assistant inspector, may visit any aided school at any other time without notice.

11. No undertaking should be commenced in general reliance upon aid from Government. Grants cannot be claimed for any school, irrespective of the circumstances of the case and the limits of the sum at the disposal of Government. Should a grant be refused the reason for its refusal will be communicated to the applicants.

12. As a general rule, no application will be entertained for aid to a boys' school when there already exists a flourishing boys' school of the same class within two miles of the proposed site, without some intervening obstacle, unless the average daily attendance for six months prior to the date of application exceeds 60. An anglo-vernacular school will be considered as of the same class as a vernacular school.

12 *a*. Every application for the registration, change of site, or transfer of management of a school will be notified in the "Government Gazette."

13. The proprietors of a school must appoint a correspondent with the department, who will be hereinafter called the manager, and must give notice of any change of correspondent. Teachers cannot act as managers of, or correspondents for, the schools in which they are employed.

13 *a*. Before any grant is made to a school, the department must be satisfied that the school is not carried on under the management of any person or persons who derive emolument from it.

14. No article in this code shall be revoked, altered or amended without the previous sanction of the Governor and Executive Council, and any such revocation, alteration, or amendment shall be published in the "Government Gazette."

15. The code shall be printed each year in such a form as to show separately all articles cancelled, or modified, and all new articles since the last edition, and shall be laid on the table of the Legislative Council within one calendar month from the opening of the session.

16. The schedules annexed to the code, including the instructions issued to Inspectors, shall have the same effect as the articles of the code, and shall be subject to the provisions of articles 14 and 15.

CHAPTER I.

ANNUAL GRANTS.

SECTION I.—*Preliminary Conditions.*

17. The managers of aided schools must furnish all returns that may be required by the local Government or by the department.

18. Managers of private schools unconnected with any recognised society or public body will be required to give substantial security for the maintenance of such schools for a period of not less than three years before they can be entered on the register. A form of bond to be entered into in these cases may be obtained from the Director of Public Instruction.

19. Applications for grants must invariably be made on forms supplied for that purpose by the department.

20. Before any grant is made to a school, the department must be satisfied that—

(*a*) Scholars are being instructed in at least two of the standards set forth in schedules B., D., E.

(*b*) The average daily attendance for three months prior to the application is not less than

(*a*) *In towns.**

In a boys' school	50
In a girls' school	30
In a mixed school of boys and girls ...	60

(*b*) *In villages.*

In a boys' school	30
In a girls' school	20
In a mixed school of boys and girls ...	30

(*c*) *In C. schools* (*Vide infra.*)

In a boys' school	15
In a girls' school	10
In a mixed school of boys and girls ...	15

(*c*) The girls in a girls' school are taught plain needle work as part of the ordinary course of instruction.

(*d*) Registers of admission and daily attendance are accurately kept, and that the rules for keeping school registers printed on the first page thereof are carefully carried out, and that the registers are marked every time the school meets, and that adequate time is allowed in the Time Table for marking the registers, and that the returns furnished are trustworthy, and that

(*e*) The school buildings, furniture, and apparatus are sufficient according to the requirements for registration, and in good repair.

21. Any school accepted by the department which ceases to fulfil any of the above conditions, or which fails to earn 50 per cent. of passes at the annual examination, will, unless satisfactory reasons be furnished to the department, be removed from the list of aided schools. If the manager wishes to revive at any time a school removed from the list, application must be made in the same form as for a new school.

22. Grants are made on the same terms to all practising schools attached to training schools.

SECTION II.—*Registration.*

23. Schools may be registered for grants-in-aid either as vernacular, Anglo-vernacular, or English schools, and as primary, middle, or high schools.

Vernacular Schools.

24. Vernacular schools may be registered as primary, middle or high schools.

Vernacular primary schools are schools in which no scholar is presented for grant above standard V.

Vernacular middle schools are schools in which scholars are presented for examination in any standard above standard V.

No vernacular primary school will be examined as a middle school unless it has been registered as a middle school during the year preceding the examination, and unless it has already presented successful candidates in the Vth standard.

A vernacular middle school may include a primary school.

Vernacular high schools are schools in which scholars are instructed in classical Sinhalese, Sanskrit, Páli, or Tamil literature. Grants to such schools are only made in exceptional circumstances, and every application for such schools will be considered by the Government on its special merits.

Anglo-Vernacular Schools.

25. Middle vernacular schools may present for examination in English all or any scholars who have passed the IVth standard. Such schools are hereinafter called Anglo-vernacular schools. No school will be examined as an Anglo-vernacular school unless it has been registered as such during the year preceding the examination. Scholars may be presented for English passes in any of the four English standards, but no scholar will be examined twice in the same standard.

English Schools.

26. English primary schools are schools in which no scholar is presented above the Vth standard.

English middle schools are schools in which scholars are presented for examination in standards VI., VII. or VIII.

English high schools are schools in which scholars are presented for examination at the Cambridge local examination, or for Matriculation at the University of Calcutta or Madras, or in any of the specific subjects of examination enumerated in Schedule C.

An English middle school may include a primary school, and a high school may include middle and primary schools.

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* NOTE.—The places to be considered as towns for the purposes of this Code are as follows :—

Western Province.		*Within*
Colombo	...	Municipal limits.
Kalutara	...	Police limits.
Negombo	...	do.
Southern Province.		
Galle	...	Municipal limits.
Mátara	...	Police limits.

Central Province.		*Within*
Kandy	...	Municipal limits.
Eastern Province.		
Batticaloa ...		Police limits.
Trincomalee		do.
Northern Province.		
Jaffna	...	A radius of 1½ mile from the Fort.

No English primary school will be examined as a middle school unless it has been registered as such during the year preceding the examination.

27. No school will be registered as an English high school unless the department is satisfied :—

(*a*) That the teaching staff is sufficient in number and quality.

(*b*) That the managers are in a position to guarantee the stability of the school.

28. Middle and primary schools may be registered as A., B., or C. schools.

A. Schools.

(*a*) Before a middle or primary school is registered as an A. school, the department must be satisfied that the school buildings are expressly adapted for school purposes ; that they afford sufficient accommodation, and are kept in good repair.

(*b*) That the school is not surrounded by other buildings to such an extent as to exclude light and air, and that particular regard is paid to health and cleanliness both in the persons of the pupils and in the arrangements and condition of the school premises.

(*c*) That the supply of school materials, maps, and other appliances for teaching, desks, black-boards and other furniture, books, writing materials, &c., are in sufficient quantity, and in good order.

(*d*) That the regular work of the school is conducted in an orderly and disciplined manner, and in accordance with a satisfactory time table.

B. Schools.

29. Upon the report of the inspector that an A. school does not fulfil these conditions, notice shall be given on form to the manager, and if at the next annual examination the requirements of the code are not satisfied, the result payments will be made on a lower scale, the value of a pass in any standard or subject being R. 1. The school will then be classed as a B. school.

30. New schools may be accepted provisionally as B. schools until the manager has time to complete new buildings and provide suitable furniture, but no school shall be allowed to remain on the B. list for more than one year. After that time, if the department is not satisfied, it will be removed.

Examination.

31. Managers of schools may claim after the annual examination—

(*a*) For every scholar presented in standards I.—VIII., a sum calculated on passes achieved according to schedules F., G.

(*b*) No grant will be allowed for any scholar who shall have received less than nine months' instruction, during the twelve months immediately preceding the examination, in the school in which he is examined, and who shall have made less than 100 attendances.

NOTE.—In reckoning nine months' instruction, the month fixed for the examination may be included. The month of admission is not to be included unless the scholar is admitted on the first school day of the month.

(*c*) At a first examination, scholars may be grouped in any standard fixed by the manager, but scholars may not be presented a second time for examination under the same standard unless they fail to pass in more than one of the first three heads. If they fail to pass in more than one of the first three heads they will be considered to have failed altogether, and no result payment can be claimed for them.

(*d*) No grant will be allowed for any scholar over twenty years of age on the day of examination.

(*e*) No grant will be made for any scholar in standard I. who is over twelve years of age.

(*f*) Schools in which the scholars presented fail to earn 20 per cent. of passes in any one of the subjects, *Reading*, or *Writing* or *Arithmetic*, will receive result payments as B. schools.

(*g*) Falsification of the register will involve forfeiture of half the grant for the year, and in the case of certificated teachers the certificate will be suspended.

(*h*) Due notice having been given of the date of examination of any school, if the inspector finds that the school is not ready on the day of his visit, the expenses of the inspector's second visit will be deducted from the grant earned by the school, but the department does not bind itself to hold a deferred examination.

(*i*) No grant can be claimed for any girl taught in a school registered as a boys' school, or for any boy over ten years of age taught in a school registered as a girls' school. No school will be examined as a mixed (boys' and girls') school unless registered as such.

(*k*) The grants will be paid, if possible, within three months of the day of examination.

C. Schools.

32. Schools in outlying, sparsely-populated and neglected districts, unable to fulfil the conditions attached to A. schools, may be registered as C. schools under the following regulations :—

(*a*) All scholars presented for examination without limit of attendance will receive the same grant as A. schools for passes achieved, but no child can be examined twice in the same standard.

(*b*) An average daily attendance for three months of fifteen boys or ten girls, or fifteen boys and girls in a mixed school, will be accepted as sufficient in application for registration as C. schools.

(*c*) In all other respects the regulations applying to A. schools will apply to C. schools.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS.

33. A scheme for the application of result payments to manual instruction is in preparation. In the meantime, applications for grants-in-aid to industrial schools will be entertained on the following conditions :—

(*a*) The school shall teach a trade or trades to be approved by the department.

(*b*) The workshops must be sufficiently provided with appliances for elementary instruction in the trade or trades to which the school is devoted.

(*c*) The master of each workshop must be qualified to teach his trade.

34. The managers of an industrial school registered by the department may claim, in addition to the general grants, for each boy above the age of ten years certified to have been in regular attendance for nine months since the previous annual inspection of the school, and to have received instruction in the workshop for not less than three hours daily, a grant of five rupees.

Form of Certificate.

I, *A. B.*, manager of the registered industrial school , certify that every boy on this list has regularly attended this school for nine months since the date of the last annual inspection, and has received instruction in the trade specified opposite to his name for three hours daily on not less than 100 days.

Name.	Age.	Trade.	Number of attendances.

GIRLS' DAY SCHOOLS.

35. In girls' day schools an allowance will be made for needlework. (Schedules F., G.)

Each girl shall be required to produce a specimen of needlework done in the presence of the Inspector, according to the following scale of Standards :—

STANDARD I.

Neat hemming.

STANDARD II.

Hemming, sewing and felling so as to be able to make a bag ; also patch-work.

STANDARD III.

The former stitches and back-stitching, to be able to make pillow-cases; also marking.

STANDARD IV.

As before, and to put in a neat gusset so as to make their own jackets.

STANDARD V.

Stitches as before, also button holes and darning, and to be able to cut out a jacket.

STANDARD VI.

As in the previous standards; also to be able to cut out and make under-jackets. Knitting *may be taught in this Standard.*

STANDARD VII.

As before ; also to be able to put in a neat patch and to make a little child's frock, pinafore, or shirt ; knitting.

STANDARD VIII.

As before, and to cut out and make a plain shirt with yoke back and gathered sleeves put into wristbands ; knitting.

GIRLS' VERNACULAR AND ANGLO-VERNACULAR BOARDING SCHOOLS.

36. In girls' vernacular and Anglo-vernacular boarding schools the value of a "pass" will be twice the value of a corresponding "pass" in day schools. (Schedule G., Note.)

37. When the day-girls do not amount to more than one-fourth of the number of boarders, their passes will be computed at the same rate as boarders. When the number of day-girls is in excess of one-fourth of the number of boarders, their passes will be calculated as for scholars in day schools. Applications for grants in favour of girls' vernacular and Anglo-vernacular boarding schools will be entertained without reference to the limitations prescribed in section 1, ¶ 20.

CHAPTER II.

SECTION I.

Teachers.

38. After the first day of January, 1884, no new boys' school will be accepted as a grant-in-aid Anglo-vernacular, or vernacular A. school, unless the principal teacher holds a certificate or license from the department.

39. The certificates issued will be of three classes.

40. A third class certificate will entitle the teacher to hold the appointment of principal teacher in a primary school.

41. A second-class certificate will entitle the teacher to hold the appointment of principal teacher in a middle school.

42. A first-class certificate will be given to teachers who hold second-class certificates only after five years' service either in the same school or in different schools under the same management: it will entitle the holder to an annual payment from Government in augmentation of salary, on conditions to be fixed hereafter.

43. A certificate of the third class will be issued to every registered pupil-teacher who has completed three years' approved service as pupil-teacher in conformity with the rules of the department: it will be issued provisionally, and confirmed after two years' satisfactory probation, either as principal teacher of a primary school or as assistant teacher of a middle school on the certificate of the manager.

44. Provisional third-class certificates will be confirmed also after one year's training in an aided training school, provided that the holder shall have satisfied the examiners in the first year's examination.

45. A certificate of the second class will be issued to all students of a training school inspected by the department who have completed two years' residence and passed the final examination to the satisfaction of the examiners appointed by the department.

46. This certificate will not entitle the teacher to hold an appointment as head teacher of an Anglo-vernacular school unless he has passed the qualifying examination in English appointed for each year of the training school course.

47. A certificate of the second class will also be issued to any holder of a third-class certificate after three years' continuous service in the same school or in different schools under the same management, on the recommendation of the manager; provided that the candidate has passed the final examination required of the students of training schools. It will be issued provisionally and confirmed after one year's satisfactory probation as teacher of a middle school, certified by the manager and the department.

48. Up to the 1st day of January, 1885, certificates will be issued :—

(*a*) Of the third class to any teacher who has been for three years in continuous charge of the same school or of different schools under the same management, and has presented scholars for examination at each annual inspection, and has earned result payments on not less than 50 per cent. of passes, on the certificate of the manager to his ability and industry.

(*b*) Of the second class to any teacher who has earned result payments, under the same conditions as above, in the VIIIth standard* for three consecutive years immediately preceding the date of application for the certificate.

49. It shall be in the power of the Director to issue certificates of the second or third class to any teacher, who holds a certificate of competency from any recognized Normal school or training establishment in Europe or in any part of the British Empire or in America.

49 *a*. Licenses will be issued to teachers in grant-in-aid schools on the following conditions :—

A.—Licenses will be of two classes. Licenses of the second class will entitle the holder to hold an appointment as head teacher in a primary vernacular school. They will be issued to candidates who passed a satisfactory examination in the following subjects :—

Reading.—Good fluent reading, with comprehension, of a vernacular newspaper, public notice, school manual, or other book or document printed in correct modern Tamil or Sinhalese.

Writing.—To write a specimen of the penmanship used in setting copies of text-hand and small-hand; dictation.

Arithmetic.—As for VIth standard of vernacular schools, with vulgar fractions.

Geography.—Ceylon and Asia.

School Management.—Teaching a standard not higher than standard IV. in the presence of of the examiner. Method of keeping school registers. Examination in the code for grant-in-aid schools.

B.—Licenses of the first class will entitle the holder to hold an appointment as head master of a middle vernacular or Anglo-vernacular school. They will be issued to candidates who passed a satisfactory examination in the following subjects :—

Reading.—Reading with fluency and expression from a classical vernacular book, with grammatical analysis.

Writing.—A short essay or letter; to write a specimen of the penmanship used in setting copies.

Arithmetic.—As for standard VIII.

History.—History of Ceylon.

Geography.—As for standard VIII.

School Management.—(1) To teach a class in the presence of the Inspector; (2) To answer questions in writing on the following subjects :—

a. The different modes of organizing a school;
b. The keeping of registers; the Code;
c. Notes of lessons; questions of discipline.

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* Or standard VI. of old Code.

Candidates for Anglo-vernacular licenses will be required to pass in the English subjects required for the VIIIth standard in Anglo-vernacular schools.

The first examination for licenses will be held in December, 1883, at such centres as shall be found most convenient for the candidates.

50. After the 1st day of January, 1884, no principal teacher shall be appointed to any vernacular or Anglo-vernacular school in receipt of grant, unless he holds a certificate or license of the department.

51. After the 1st day of January, 1888, no grant will be continued to any vernacular or Anglo-vernacular school which is not in charge of a teacher holding a certificate or license of the department.

SECTION II.

Pupil-Teachers and Training Schools.

52. In order to enable managers to meet the future requirements of the code, by the systematic training of students for the profession of teaching, grants will be made for (*a*) pupil-teachers and (*b*) training schools.

53. Pupil teachers are boys or girls selected by the manager to assist the teacher of a school in maintaining discipline, and instructing the lower classes.

54. In making this selection the manager is required only to observe the following regulations:—

(1) Before pupil-teachers are submitted to the department for registration, application must be made in the form prescribed (schedule II.); they must have passed the Vth or a higher Standard in Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, and at least one additional subject.

(2) Pupil-teachers at the date of registration must be not less than 14 years of age, completed.

55. Pupil-teachers will be registered in such schools only as satisfy the following conditions:—

(*a*) The whole school must be favourably reported on by the inspector as regards

1.—Discipline.	3.—Premises, furniture, apparatus, &c.
2.—Instruction.	4.—Stability.

(*b*) The school must have obtained a grant for at least three years preceding the date of application, if an English school,* in standards VI., VII., VIII.; if a vernacular school† in tandards V., VI., VII.

(*c*) To entitle a school to one pupil-teacher, the average number of pupils examined for a grant during each of the three preceding years must be not less than forty; for every additional fifty in average attendance during three successive years, a school will be entitled to an additional pupil-teacher; but not more than two pupil-teachers will be registered for any school during the same year.

56. The course of studies for pupil-teachers is laid down in schedules I. and J.

57. Every pupil-teacher presented for examination must produce a certificate from the manager of his school in the prescribed form (schedule K.).

58. No pupil-teacher can be presented for his first examination within nine months of the date of registration.

59. The inspecting officer examining the school for a grant will at the same time examine the pupil-teacher in the subjects laid down, and will require him or her to give a lesson in his presence to one of the lower classes. If he is satisfied with the candidate's proficiency, he will sign the certificate, upon which the manager may claim a grant.

60. If a candidate fail to satisfy the inspector, he may be presented again at the next annual inspection, in the same subjects of examination, but no result-payments for a candidate who fails can be claimed at the time of failure.

61. Grants will be made for pupil-teachers as follows:—

First year's Examination.

English schools, Rs. 50 + grant in full for VIth standard pass.
Anglo-vernacular and vernacular, Rs. 30 + grant in full for VIth standard pass.

Second year.

English schools, Rs. 75 + grant in full for VIIth standard pass.
Anglo-vernacular and vernacular, Rs. 50 + grant in full for VIIth standard pass.

Third year.

English schools, Rs. 100 + grant in full for VIIIth standard pass.
Anglo-vernacular and vernacular, Rs. 75 + grant in full for VIIIth standard pass.

NOTE.—The additional grant for a pass in any standard will not be paid on account of any pupil-teacher who has already earned a grant in the same standard.

TRAINING SCHOOLS.

62. Grants-in-aid will be made to vernacular and Anglo-vernacular training schools, for male or female teachers, under certain conditions.

63. The department must be satisfied that

(*a*) The staff of teachers is sufficient in number and quality;
(*b*) The managers are in a position to guarantee the stability of the school;
(*c*) There is a practising school, in which students may learn the exercise of their profession, either immediately connected with the training school or within easy reach, and under the same management.

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* Or standards IV., V., VI. of the old Code. † Standards IV. and V. of the old Code.

Grants to Training Schools.

64. An examination of candidates for admission to training schools will be annually held in the month of December.

65. The examination will extend to all the subjects required of pupil-teachers in the course of their engagement.

66. Candidates who desire to qualify as Anglo-vernacular teachers will have to satisfy the examiners in the English part of the examination.

67. The candidates are selected and admitted to the examination by the authorities of each school on their own responsibility, subject to no other conditions on the part of the department than that the candidates—

(*a*) Intend *bonâ fide* to adopt and follow the profession of teacher;

(*b*) Having been pupil-teachers, have successfully completed their engagement;

(*c*) Not having been pupil-teachers, or not having completed their engagement as pupil-teachers, will be more than seventeen years of age on the 1st of January next following the date of examination. At each examination a certain number of successful candidates, in proportion to the number of vernacular and Anglo-vernacular aided schools, will be appointed Queen's scholars.

68. The number of Queen's scholarships to be competed for annually by boys is at present fixed at 5 per cent. on the number of vernacular and Anglo-vernacular aided boys' schools.

69. The number of Queen's scholarships to be competed for by girls is also fixed at 5 per cent. on the number of vernacular and Anglo-vernacular girls' schools.

70. The Queen's scholarships will be awarded to the most successful candidates presented for examination by each school, in the order of merit; provided that the number of Queen's scholarships to be allotted to any manager or managers shall not exceed 5 per cent. upon the number of vernacular and Anglo-vernacular schools under the same management.

71. At the end of one year after admission to a training school as a Queen's scholar, an examination will be held in the subjects prescribed in schedule L., and the managers will be entitled to a grant of 100 rupees for every Queen's scholar who passes such examination satisfactorily. Queen's scholars who fail to obtain one-third of the marks in reading, or in writing, or in arithmetic, will forfeit their scholarships.

72. At the close of the second year there will be a final examination, and for each successful Queen's scholar the manager will receive the final sum of 150 rupees, making up the total value of the scholarship.

CHAPTER III.

Section 1.

Superior Instruction.

73. The assistance granted by the department for the encouragement of superior instruction will be in the form of:—

1st.—Public examination.

2nd.—Payments on the results of examinations.

3rd.—Scholarships and exhibitions

Public Examinations.

74. The examinations conducted by the Syndicate of the University of Cambridge for local examinations, hereinafter styled the senior and junior local examinations, will be the standard of examination, and will take the place of the local examination hitherto held. No marks obtained for the subject of religious knowledge will be allowed to count in awarding the scholarships, exhibitions and prizes referred to in this code.

The scholarships and prizes awarded are limited to candidates being *bonâ fide* students in Government and Grant in-aid schools.

Junior Local Examination.

75. On such day in each year as may be appointed the junior local examination will be held in Colombo, Kandy, Galle, and Jaffna, and in other places if it be required and found expedient.

76. The certificates of the University will only be awarded to students who pass this examination, except in the cases otherwise provided for, if under sixteen years of age on the 1st day of January succeeding the examination. Local certificates, prizes, and exhibitions may be gained by all students under seventeen years of age on the last day of the month appointed for the examination.

77. For every candidate fulfilling the conditions of age who shall pass this examination to the satisfaction of the examiners, the manager of the school at which he has received his education will be entitled to claim for each subject in which the candidate passes a grant of five rupees.

78. A book prize will be given to every candidate for each subject in which he passes in honors.

79. Three exhibitions—one of the value of rupees 240 per annum, and two, each of the value of rupees 120 per annum, tenable for three years either at the Royal College or at any registered high school, will be awarded every year to the three best candidates who shall pass this examination.

Senior Local Examination.

80. The senior local examination will be held under the same general conditions as the junior examination, on such day as may be appointed in each year. The result payments, prizes and scholarships will be open to candidates who have not completed their 19th year on the last day of the month appointed for the examination.

81. For every candidate fulfilling the conditions of age who shall pass this examination to the satisfaction of the examiners, the manager of the school at which he has been educated will be entitled to claim, for each subject in which the candidate passes, a grant of ten rupees.

82. A book prize will be given to every candidate for each subject in which he passes in honors.

83. One scholarship of the value of £150, tenable for four years, will be awarded at these examinations to the student who, having been resident in the Island for the five years next before the

examination, shall pass the best examination in honors. The successful candidate will have to proceed to one of the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge or Dublin, or to one of the Scotch Universities, or to such other place of education as shall be approved of by the Governor, and will be required to gain such certificates of good conduct and progress as are usually awarded to meritorious students.

SECTION 2.

Specific subjects of Secular Instruction.

84. If the time-table of an English school in use throughout the year has provided for one or more specific subjects of secular instruction according to the table in schedule C.—

(*a*) A grant may be made for every such scholar presented in standards VI., VII., VIII., who passes a satisfactory examination in not more than two of such subjects besides drawing. The grant for a pass in stage 1 shall be Rs. 2 for each subject; in stage 2, Rs. 4 for each subject; in stage 3, Rs. 6 for each subject.

(*b*) Any scholar who has previously passed in standard VIII. may, if qualified by attendance, be presented in not more than three of such specific subjects besides drawing.

CHAPTER IV.

VERNACULAR LITERATURE IN ENGLISH SCHOOLS.

85. English schools in which systematic instruction is given in a vernacular language and literature will be allowed to present scholars for vernacular passes in standards VI., VII., and VIII. of the subjects appointed for vernacular schools.

86. No scholar who has failed in the English part of the examination can be presented for a pass in vernacular literature, the value of which will be the same as in vernacular schools.

APPENDIX.

Schedule A.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE REGULATIONS FOR LOCAL EXAMINATIONS.

[The Regulations for the Examinations to be held in December, 1884, will be issued to Managers of Grant-in-aid high schools as soon as received.]

Schedule B.

STANDARDS of Examination for English Schools.

	Reading.	Writing.	Arithmetic.	Geography.	History.
Standard I.	A few sentences from a First Book (at least 30 pages) distinctly and accurately pronounced.	To form letters, small and capital, on slate or black-board.	Notation to hundred, addition orally of numbers whose sum does not exceed twenty, and subtraction of digits.		
Standard II.	A few sentences from a Second Book slowly and distinctly read.	To copy in manuscript characters a line of print on slate or black-board, and write from dictation a few common words. Copy-writing (single letters in large text) must be shown in this standard.	Simple addition and subtraction of numbers containing not more than five figures. Multiplication to 3 times 12.		
Standard III.	Clear and intelligible reading from a Third Book.	To write from dictation, words and short sentences from the reading book, slowly read and then dictated. Copy-writing in large round text must be shown in this standard.	The four simple rules. Miscellaneous questions.		
Standard IV.	Good and intelligent reading from a Fourth Book. To point out nouns, verbs and adjectives in passage read.	To write a connected passage from the reading book, slowly read and then dictated. Copy-writing in small round text must be shown in this standard.	Use of rupees and cents, bills of parcels, simple problems.	Definitions. Use of Map of Ceylon.	
Standard V.	Good and intelligent reading from a Fifth Book with particular regard to emphasis. Parsing a simple sentence.	To write about eight lines slowly dictated from the reading book. Copy-writing in a running hand must be shown in this standard.	Reduction of common weights and measures and their application to foregoing rules, and the use of English money.	General description of figure of the Earth. Europe.	Ceylon.
Standard VI.	The same, from any book containing selections from good English authors. Parsing with analysis of a simple sentence.	To write to dictation from any newspaper or book.	Practice, simple and compound proportion.	General description of the ocean. Europe and Asia.	Outline of English History from 1066 to 1485.
Standard VII.	Reading with fluency and expression from any newspaper or book brought by the Inspector. Parsing and analysis of a short complex sentence.	Writing from memory the substance of a short story read out twice; spelling, handwriting, and grammar to be considered.	Vulgar and decimal fractions.	General description of the earth's surface. British Empire.	Same, from 1485 to 1688
Standard VIII.	The same, with recitation of not less than fifty lines of prose or poetry. Meaning and allusions to be known, and if well-known to atone for deficiency of memory. Parsing and analysis of prose or poetry.	A short theme or letter; the composition, spelling, grammar, and handwriting to be considered.	Interest and discount with exercises on all the foregoing rules.	Physical and political Geography of the World.	Same, from 1688 to 1815.

1.—Scholars may not be presented a second time for examination under the same standard, unless they fail to pass in more than one of the first three heads. If they fail to pass in more than one of the three first heads they will be considered to have failed altogether, and no result payment can be claimed for them.

2.—Reading may be tested in the ordinary class book, if approved by the Inspector; but the books must be of reasonable length and difficulty and unmarked. Every class ought to have two or three sets of reading-books. Managers are requested to send a copy of all reading books used to the department, with an intimation of the standard for which they are intended.

3.—Copy-writing is to be done on paper in the presence of the Inspector.

Schedule C.

	1 Mathematics.	2 Latin.	3 Mechanics.	4 Animal Physiology.	5 Botany.	6 Drawing.	7 Chemistry.	Physics. 8 Light and Heat.	Physics. 9 Magnetism, Electricity.
First Stage ...	Algebra: notation, addition, subtraction, Euclid, Book I., propositions 1 to 15, inclusive.	Grammar, to the end of regular verbs.	Elementary knowledge of the different states of matter—solid, liquid, and gaseous—with illustrations of compressibility, elasticity, and resistance. Measures of space, and time, velocity.	The build of the human body; names and positions of the internal organs.	Characters of the root, stem, leaves, and parts of the flower, illustrated by specimens of common flowering plants.	Free-hand drawing from flat examples.	Elementary and compound matter, illustrations of combination and decomposition in such bodies as hydrochloric acid, water, oxide of mercury, and rust of iron.	General notions respecting the formation of shadows and the reflection of light. The formation of images by a looking glass. The three modes in which heat may be conveyed from one place to another. Effects of heat, expansion, melting, boiling, and evaporation.	Attraction, repulsion, and polarity as illustrated by the magnet, terrestrial magnetism and the mariners' compass.
Second Stage...	Algebra, to simple equations (inclusive). Euclid, Book I.	Irregular verbs and first rules of Syntax. Knowledge of Delectus or other first Latin reading book. Translation of simple sentences of English (three or four words) into Latin.	Elementary knowledge of force and of the conservation of energy. The parallelogram of forces. General notions of gravitation.	Circulation and respiration and the broad structure of the organs concerned.	Structure of wood, bark and pith, cells and vessels. Food of plants and manner in which a plant grows. Functions of the root, leaves, and different parts of the flower.	Free-hand drawing from models.	Preparation and properties of the common gases, such as oxygen, hydrogen, and nitrogen, and chlorine. The chemical character and constituents of pure air and pure water, and the nature of the impurities sometimes found in both. The air-food of plants.	Refraction of light, appearance of objects under water, separation of white light into its components by a prism explanation of the thermometer. The disappearance of heat in the melting of solids, and the boiling of liquids.	Attraction of light bodies by rubbed sealing wax and glass. Experimental proof that there are two forms of electricity—attraction and repulsion. Gold-leaf electroscope.
Third Stage ...	Algebra, to quadratic equations (inclusive), Euclid, Books I. and II. Elements of Mensuration.	The Latin Grammar, Cæsar de Bello Gallico, Book I. Somewhat longer sentences to be translated from English into Latin	Elementary knowledge of the mechanical powers.	The organs and function of alimentation. The properties of muscle and nerve.	The comparison of a fern and a moss with a flowering plant. The formation of different kinds of fruits. The structure of a bean and of a grain of rice. The phenomena of germination.	Perspective Candidates will be required to show a knowledge of the use of vanishing and measuring points used in horizontal planes; and to represent simple solids or objects on the ground plane in any position.	The properties of carbon as found both in inorganic and organic bodies, with elementary knowledge of the constituents of food. Differences between metallic and non-metallic bodies. Combination by weight and volume. The use of symbols and chemical formulæ.	Rudimentary explanation of the Camera obscura, burning glass, magnifying glass, microscope, and telescope. Illustration of the difference of the specific heat of bodies. The causes of cloud, rain, and dew.	Construction of electrophorus, electrical machine, and Leyden jar; construction of a common battery. Explanation of a thunderstorm. Action of a current on the magnet.

Schedule D.

STANDARDS of Examination for Anglo-Vernacular Schools.

		Reading.*	Writing.*	Arithmetic.*	Geography.*	History.*	English Reading.	English Writing.
PRIMARY.	Standard I.	A few sentences from a First Book distinctly and accurately pronounced.	To form letters on slate or black-board.	Notation up to 999. Addition up to 20, and subtraction of digits.				
	Standard II.	A few sentences from a Second Book slowly and distinctly read.	To write to dictation short sentences out of the reading book. Copy-writing to be shown, large hand only.	Simple addition and subtraction of numbers of not more than four figures. Multiplication table to 3 times 12.				
	Standard III.	Clear and intelligible reading from a Third Book.	To write a connected passage from the reading book, containing two or three sentences. Copy-writing to be shown, large hand only.	Multiplication and division, with miscellaneous questions in the four rules.				
	Standard IV.	Good and intelligent reading from a Fourth Book.	Dictation from reading book. Round hand copy-writing	Use of rupees and cents, bills of parcels, simple problems	Definitions and Ceylon.			
	Standard V.	Good and intelligent reading with questions to show comprehension of sentences read (Fourth Book.)	Dictation from reading book. Small hand copy-writing.	Reduction of common weights and measures, and their application to foregoing rules.	Same, with outlines of the World.	...	A few sentences from a First Book containing at least 30 pages, distinctly pronounced, and translated into vernacular.	Dictation from reading book—single words.
MIDDLE.	Standard VI.	Good fluent reading with explanation from a classical work in prose.	Writing from memory the substance of a short narrative read out twice. Spelling, hand-writing and grammar to be considered.	Simple and compound proportion Use of English money.	Asia.	...	A few sentences from a second reading book distinctly read and translated into vernacular.	Dictation from reading book, short sentences.
	Standard VII.	The same, with addition of verse.	A short theme or letter.	Vulgar and Decimal Fractions.	Asia & Europe	Ceylon, outlines of principal periods.	Clear and intelligent reading with translation into vernacular.	To write a translation from any vernacular book approved by the Department.
	Standard VIII.	Explanation of passage from a classical work, such as Ummagga-játaka.	An essay in composition.	Interest, simple and compound, and discount, with exercises on all the foregoing rules.	The World.	Ceylon.	The same, advanced proficiency.	Same, advanced proficiency.

1.—Reading may be tested in the ordinary class book, if approved by the Inspector; but the books must be of reasonable length and difficulty and unmarked Every class ought to have two or three sets of reading books. Managers are requested to send a copy of all reading books used, to the Department, with an intimation of the standard for which they are intended.

2.—Copy-writing is to be done on paper in the presence of the Inspector.

3.—In Anglo-Vernacular Schools passes for Vernacular Grammar of the same value as other passes will be allowed, the subjects for Sinhalese schools being :—*Standard VI.*—Warnaritiya, pp. 29—40, or equivalent portions of the Sinhalese Grammars of Rev. S. Coles or Mr. Johannes. *Standard VII.*—Warnaritiya, pp. 25—54. *Standard VIII.*—The general application of grammatical rules to classical literature. In Tamil schools an equivalent will be accepted in any approved grammar.

4.—Under the head of "Reading" the following alternative subjects will be accepted *Standard VI*—To read at sight, with comprehension, a passage from a vernacular newspaper, public notice, school manual or other book or document in correct modern vernacular, selected by the examiners. *Standard VII*—Good fluent reading at sight, with comprehension, of a fairly-written letter or manuscript in correct modern vernacular. *Standard VIII.*—Reading a letter or document written in ordinary current vernacular handwriting

* Vernacular.

[90]

Schedule E.

STANDARDS of Examination for Vernacular Schools.

		Reading.	Writing.	Arithmetic.	Geography.	History.
PRIMARY.	Standard I.	A few sentences from a First book distinctly and accurately pronounced.	To form letters on slate or black-board.	Notation up to 999. Addition up to 20, and subtraction of digits.		
	Standard II.	A few sentences from a Second reading book slowly and distinctly read.	To write to dictation short sentences out of the reading book. Copy-writing to be shown, large hand only.	Simple addition and subtraction of numbers of not more than four figures. Multiplication table to 3 times 12.		
	Standard III.	Clear and intelligible reading from a Third book.	To write a connected passage from the reading book containing two or three sentences. Copy-writing to be shown, large hand only.	Multiplication and division, with miscellaneous questions in the four rules.		
	Standard IV.	Good and intelligent reading from a Fourth book.	Dictation from reading book. Round hand copy-writing.	Use of rupees and cents, bills of parcels, simple problems.	Definitions and Ceylon.	
	Standard V.	Good and intelligent reading with questions to show comprehension of sentences read (Fourth book.)	Dictation from reading book. Small hand copy-writing.	Reduction of common weights and measures and their application to foregoing rules.	Same, with outlines of the World.	
MIDDLE.	Standard VI.	Good fluent reading, with explanation from a classical work in prose.	Writing from memory the substance of a short narrative read out twice. Spelling, handwriting, and grammar to be considered.	Simple and compound proportion. Use of English money.	Asia.	
	Standard VII.	The same, with addition of verse.	A short theme or letter.	Vulgar and Decimal Fractions.	Asia and Europe.	Ceylon, outlines of principal periods.
	Standard VIII	Explanation of a passage from a classical work, such as Ummagga-játaka.	An essay in composition.	Interest, simple and compound, and discount, with exercises on all the foregoing rules.	The World.	Ceylon.

1.—Reading may be tested in the ordinary class book, if approved by the Inspector; but the books must be of reasonable length and difficulty and unmarked. Every class ought to have two or three sets of reading books. Managers are requested to send a copy of all reading books used to the department, with an intimation of the standard for which they are intended.

2.—Copy-writing is to be done on paper in the presence of the Inspector.

3.—In Middle Vernacular Schools passes for grammar will be allowed of the same value as other passes, the subjects for Sinhalese schools being:—*Standard VI.*—Warnaritiya, pp. 29-46, or equivalent portions of the Sinhalese Grammars of Rev. S. Coles or Mr. Johannes. *Standard VII.*—Warnaritiya, pp. 25—54, or equivalent portions of the Sinhalese Grammars of Rev. S. Coles or Mr. Johannes. *Standard VIII.*—The general application of grammatical rules to classical literature. In Tamil schools an equivalent will be accepted in any approved grammar.

4.—Under the head of "Reading" the following alternative subjects will be accepted:—*Standard VI.*—To read at sight, with comprehension, a passage from a vernacular newspaper, public notice, school manual, or other book or document in correct modern vernacular, selected by the Examiners. *Standard VII.*—Good fluent reading at sight, with comprehension, of a fairly-written letter or manuscript in correct modern vernacular. *Standard VIII.*—Reading a letter or document written in ordinary current vernacular handwriting.

Schedule F.

VALUE of Passes, English Schools.

	Reading.	Writing.	Arithmetic.	Geography.	History.	TOTAL.
	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
Standard I. ...	2 0	2 0	2 0	—	—	6 0
do. II. ...	2 0	2 0	2 0	—	—	6 0
do. III. ...	2 50	2 50	2 50	—	—	7 50
do. IV. ...	2 50	2 50	2 50	2 50	—	10 0
do. V. ...	3 0	3 0	3 0	3 0	3 0	15 0
do. VI. ...	3 0	3 0	3 0	3 0	3 0	15 0
do. VII. ...	3 50	3 50	3 50	3 50	3 50	17 50
do. VIII. ...	4 0	4 0	4 0	4 0	4 0	20 0

In girls' schools a pass in "work" is of the same value as a pass under other heads.

Schedule G.

VALUE of Passes, Vernacular and Anglo-Vernacular Schools.

	Reading.	Writing.	Arithmetic.	Geography.	Grammar.	History.	VERNACULAR.	ANGLO-VERNACULAR.		
							Total.	English Reading.	English Writing.	Total.
	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
Standard I. ...	1 50	1 50	1 50	—	—	—	4 50	—	—	—
do. II. ...	1 50	1 50	1 50	—	—	—	4 50	—	—	—
do. III. ...	2 0	2 0	2 0	—	—	—	6 0	—	—	—
do. IV. ...	2 0	2 0	2 0	2 0	—	—	8 0	—	—	—
do. V. ...	2 0	2 0	2 0	2 0	—	—	8 0	2 0	2 0	12 0
do. VI. ...	2 50	2 50	2 50	2 50	2 50	—	12 50	2 50	2 50	17 50
do. VII. ...	2 50	2 50	2 50	2 50	2 50	2 50	15 0	2 50	2 50	20 0
do. VIII. ...	2 50	2 50	2 50	2 50	2 50	2 50	15 0	2 50	2 50	20 0

In girls' vernacular and Anglo-vernacular boarding schools the value of each pass is double the above sums.

In all girls' schools a pass in "work" will be of the same value as a pass under other heads.

In C. schools the value of a pass is the same as the value of a pass in the corresponding standards of A. schools.

Schedule H.

Form of Certificate from Managers to be forwarded to Director of Public Instruction, on registration of Pupil Teachers.

SIR,—I HAVE the honor to inform you that I have this day nominated A. B. as pupil teacher in the school, believing ( ) to be well-qualified for the office in respect of health, character, habits and parentage.

I further certify that ( ) passed the standard in Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, and at the examination of school on day of 18

I am, &c.,

M. N.

Manager.

Registered this day of 18 No.

Director of Public Instruction.

(On the reverse)

PUPIL TEACHER'S CERTIFICATE.

First Examination.

I hereby certify that has satisfied the requirements of the Code.
(Date)
Manager. Inspector.

Second Examination.

I hereby certify that has satisfied the requirements of the Code.
(Date)
Manager. Inspector.

Third Examination.

I hereby certify that has satisfied the requirements of the Code.
(Date)
Manager. Inspector.

Note.—After the third examination this certificate is to be exchanged for a provisional teacher's certificate.

Schedule I.

QUALIFICATIONS and Certificates required of Pupil Teachers in Grant-in-aid English schools. The conditions of registration are stated in the Code.

	General Subjects of Examination.	Additional Subjects.	School Management.	Certificates of Manager and Inspector.
First year ...	All subjects assigned to VIth standard	Elementary composition. Map drawing, Ceylon	To give a reading lesson to any class not higher than IVth standard	According to Form.
Second year ...	All subjects assigned to VIIth standard	Same, map drawing, Asia	To give a lesson in reading, writing or arithmetic to any primary class	Same.
Third year ...	All subjects assigned to VIIIth standard	Same, map drawing, World	Increased skill in teaching any primary school in all standards. Written examination on duties of monitors	Same.

Schedule J.

QUALIFICATIONS and Certificates required of Pupil Teachers in Grant-in-aid Vernacular and Anglo-Vernacular schools. The conditions of registration are stated in the Code.

	General Subjects of Examination.	Additional Subjects.	School Management.	Certificates of Manager and Inspector.
First year ...	All subjects assigned to VIth standard	Elementary composition. Map drawing (outlines of Ceylon and principal towns.)	To give a reading lesson to any class not higher than IVth standard	According to Form
Second year ...	All subjects assigned to VIIth standard	Same, more advanced, Ceylon in detail.	To give a lesson in reading, writing and arithmetic to any primary class	Same.
Third year ...	All subjects assigned to VIIIth standard	Same, more advanced, outlines of geography of the World.	The same, with a lesson in geography. Written examination on all the duties of monitors	Same.

Pupil teachers in Vernacular schools will be examined in the standards of vernacular schools only. Pupil teachers in Anglo-vernacular schools in the standard of Anglo-vernacular schools.

Schedule K.

School 18

I hereby certify that has fulfilled the duties required of him with punctuality, diligence, obedience and intelligence, and that to the best of my knowledge and belief his moral character has been uniformly good.

Manager.

Schedule L.

QUALIFICATIONS and Certificates of Students in Grant-in-Aid Training Schools.

	Certificate.	Reading.	Writing.	Arithmetic.	Geography.	History.	School Management.
For Admission.	Certificate of Manager.	Reading with fluency and expression from a classical book with grammatical analysis.	An essay in composition.	As for VIIIth Standard.	The World.	Ceylon.	Duties of Monitors.
First year's Examination.	Same.	Same, with advanced proficiency.	Same.	Same, more difficult examples.	Distribution of land and water on the earth's surface, advanced proficiency in political geography of the World.	Same, with outlines of the great events of the history of the World. *	To give lessons in reading, writing or arithmetic to a VIth standard class. Written papers on school management.
Second year's Examination.	Same.	Same, with advanced proficiency.	Same.	Same.	Advanced proficiency in physical and political geography of the World.	Same, advanced proficiency.	To teach a VIIth standard class. Written papers on school management and method.

* NOTE.—It is the intention of the Department to publish immediately an adaptation of Lethbridge's *World's History* for Indian Schools.

Candidates for Anglo-vernacular certificates will be required to pass, for admission, in the English subjects required for the VIIIth standard in Anglo-vernacular schools, and in the subsequent examinations will be required to teach, in the first year, a VIth standard class in English, and, in the second year, a VIIth standard class, to the satisfaction of the Inspector.

Schedule M.

The names of the children to be examined in each standard must be entered upon a form prepared for the purpose, termed a Report Slip; each Report Slip bearing the following declaration and particulars to be signed by the manager of the school, and handed to the Inspector previously to the examination:—

I hereby certify and declare that all the children whose names are herein entered to be examined for a grant have received not less than nine months' actual instruction in this school during the twelve months immediately preceding the date thereof; and that the conditions laid down with respect to the standard in which they are now offered for examination have been strictly complied with, and that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, no one of them has passed the examination in this or in a higher standard, in this or in any other school.

Number on List.

Average attendance for twelve months preceding the examination.

A. B.
Manager.

SPECIMEN REPORT SLIP.

Number.	Name.	Age.	Date of admission to school.	Number of attendances since last examination.	Under what standard last examined.	Reading.	Writing.	Arithmetic.	Geography.	Grammar.	History.	Needlework.
			Y M									

Schedule N.

ENGLISH SCHOOLS.

Complete High School.
- High School ... Senior Local Examination; Junior Local Examination; Examination in specific subjects, Schedule C.
- Middl eSchool... VIII. Standard; VII. do.; VI. do.
- Primary School: V. do.; IV. do.; III. do.; II. do.; I. do.

VERNACULAR SCHOOLS.

High School. ... Classical Sinhalese or Tamil Literature.

Complete Middle School.
- Middle School ... VIII. Standard; VII. do.; VI. do.
- Primary School: V. do.; IV. do.; III. do.; II. do.; I. do.

Vernacular Middle Schools in which English is taught in standards V., VI., VII., and VIII. are called Anglo-vernacular schools.

NOTIFICATION.

AMENDED ARTICLES FOR THE CODE OF 1884.

THE following Amended Articles for the Revised Code of 1884 were published for general information in the *Government Gazette* of 14th September, 1883, and are incorporated in the Code :—

Revised Code, 1883.	*Amendments sanctioned for the Revised Code of* 1884.
13. The proprietors of a school must appoint a correspondent with the Department, who will be hereinafter called the manager, and must give notice of any change of correspondent. Teachers cannot act as managers of, or correspondents for, the schools in which they are employed.	PRELIMINARY CHAPTER. After clause 13, add the following :— 13 *(a)*. Before any grant is made to a school, the Department must be satisfied that the school is not carried on under the management of any person or persons who derive emolument from it.
	CHAPTER I.
20 *(d)*. Registers of admission and daily attendance are accurately kept, and that the returns furnished are trustworthy, and that	After the words "and that" in clause 20 *(d)*, add the words : The rules for keeping school registers printed on the first page thereof are carefully carried out, and that the registers are marked every time the school meets, and that adequate time is allowed in the time table for marking the registers ; and that
31 *(a)*. For every child receiving instruction in a vernacular or Anglo-vernacular school under ten years of age on the day of examination who, having entered the school within twelve months of the date of examination, and having made not less than 100 attendances, is not, in the opinion of the manager, qualified to be examined in standard I., a capitation grant as follows :— In A schools ... Rs. 1 cts. 0 In B schools ... Rs. 0 cts. 50 No capitation grant will be allowed for any child not present on the day of examination.	Omit clause 31 *(a)*.
31 *(g)*. Schools in which the scholars presented fail to earn 50 per cent. of passes in *Reading*, *Writing*, and *Arithmetic*, will receive result payments as B schools.	Schools in which the scholars presented fail to earn 20 per cent. of passes in any one of the subjects, *Reading* or *Writing* or *Arithmetic* will receive result payments as B schools.
31. *(l)*. No capitation grant will be allowed for any child who has at any time attended a Government school, and the manager will be required to certify that to the best of his belief no child presented for a capitation grant has received a capitation grant in any other school.	Omit clause 31 *(l)* being dependent on 31 *(a)*.
32 *(b)*. C. schools will receive, in addition, a capitation grant of three rupees for each scholar present on the day of examination who has made over 100 attendances, but such capitation grant shall not exceed a sum of Rs. 90.	Omit clause 32 *(b)*.
35. In girls' day schools a fixed allowance will be made for needlework (schedules F. G.). NOTE.—With a view to introducing a graduated scheme for needlework, the following standards are suggested.	In girls' day schools an allowance will be made for needlework (schedules F. G.) Each girl shall be required to produce a specimen of needlework done in the presence of the Inspector, according to the following scale of standards.
71. At the end of one year after admission to a training school as a Queen's scholar, an examination will be held in the subjects prescribed in schedule L., and the managers will be entitled to a grant of Rs. 100 for every Queen's scholar who passes such examination satisfactorily. Queen's scholars who fail to obtain one-third of the marks will forfeit their scholarships.	After the words "one-third of the marks," add the words, "in reading, or in writing, or in arithmetic."
73. Candidates for the certificate of the Department, not being Queen's scholars, will be examined, if they present themselves at such examinations, and will be placed in three classes, according to their order of merit.	Omit clause 73.

CHAPTER III.

75. The examinations conducted by the syndicate of the University of Cambridge for local examinations, hereinafter styled the senior and junior local examinations, will be the standard of examination, and will take the place of the local examination hitherto held. No marks for religious knowledge will be allowed in these examinations.	The examinations conducted by the syndicate of the University of Cambridge for local examinations hereinafter styled the senior and junior local examinations will be the standard of examination, and will take the place of the local examination hitherto held.
	No marks obtained for the subject, "religious knowledge," will be allowed to count in awarding the scholarships, exhibitions, and prizes referred to in this Code.
The scholarships and prizes awarded are limited. (1) To candidates who compete in secular subjects only. (2) To candidates being *bonâ fide* students in Government and Grant-in-aid schools.	The scholarships and prizes awarded are limited to candidates being *bonâ fide* students in Government and Grant-in-aid schools.
85 (*a*). A grant of the value of four rupees per subject may be made for every such scholar presented in standards VI., VII., VIII., who passes a satisfactory examination in not more than two of such subjects besides drawing.	Omit the words "of the value four rupees per subject," and after the words "besides drawing," add "The grant for a pass in stage I. shall be Rs. 2 for each subject; in stage II., Rs. 4 for each subject; in stage III., Rs. 6 for each subject.
SCHEDULE G. Capitations below standard I., — in A. Schools Rs. 1, in B. schools cents 50.	Omit.

NOTE.—The following are the Rules for keeping Registers referred to in clause 20 *(d)*.

The Registers of Admission and Attendance must always be kept in the School during school hours.

ATTENDANCE REGISTERS.

The names of scholars must be entered in the Register of Daily Attendance according to Standards, preserving the same order throughout the year.

An attendance, to fulfil the conditions of the Revised Code, must be an attendance of not less than three hours.

In schools which have two sessions, morning and evening, two half attendances of one hour and a half shall constitute a full attendance.

The registers must be marked immediately after the first lesson of the session, and finally closed (*i.e.*, the column must be filled up with the marks indicating presence or absence, as given below,) at least three hours before the close of each meeting of the school, or at least one hour and a-half before the close of each session in schools which have two daily sessions.

After the registers are closed no child may be marked.

Every child must be marked at each meeting of the school.

In ink, never in pencil inked over afterwards.

Presence must be marked with a long stroke, thus | or /.

Absence must be marked with an O.

There must be no dots.

No erasures; if any error has been made, it must be corrected in the column for remarks opposite the child's name.

No blanks.

If a child leaves before the expiration of the three hours' attendance (or one hour and a-half in case of two-session schools), its mark for presence must be cancelled by another stroke: thus ×

Registers must be original and not copied from slates, papers, olas, &c., on pretence of keeping them clean or any other plea.

The number of attendances made by each class or standard must be entered at the foot of the column before the Teacher leaves the school, and the grand total must be entered at the same time.

On the occasion of a holiday, a line should be drawn down the whole length of the column for the day.

At the end of each month the summary (which will be found at the end of this book) must be filled up, showing (1) the number of school-days during the month (or number of sessions in schools holding two daily sessions); (2) the total number of attendances; (3) the average attendance for the month.

NOTE:—The average attendance is shown by dividing the total number of attendances by the number of school-days (or school sessions).

ADMISSION REGISTER.

When a scholar is admitted, his name must be entered at once in the Admission Register, and the necessary information entered in each column.

Should any doubt or difficulty arise with reference to the Standard in which a child admitted from another school was last examined, the Inspector should be informed accordingly.

When a child has been absent for four months, his name should be struck off the roll, and an entry at once made in the Register in the column headed "Date of withdrawal." If this is regularly done, the number of children in attendance according to the Admission Register will tally with the number given in the Daily Attendance Register. If a scholar whose name has been struck off the Register is re-admitted, his original number should again be assigned to him.

The amendments will take effect from 1st January, 1884.

Office of the Director of Public Instruction,
Colombo, 31st August, 1883.

H. W. GREEN,
Director.

XI.—1883.

JURISDICTION OF THE MUNICIPAL BENCHES OF MAGISTRATES.

OPINIONS

OF THE

MUNICIPAL COUNCILS OF COLOMBO, GALLE, AND KANDY

ON THE

PROPOSAL TO RESTRICT THE JURISDICTION OF THE MUNICIPAL BENCHES OF MAGISTRATES.

Ordered by the Legislative Council to be Printed.

Colombo:

FRANK LUKER, ACTING GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1883.

OPINIONS

OF THE

MUNICIPAL COUNCILS ON THE PROPOSAL TO RESTRICT THE JURISDICTION

OF THE

MUNICIPAL BENCHES OF MAGISTRATES.

No. 1.

The CLERK of the Legislative Council to the CHAIRMEN of the Municipal Councils of Colombo, Kandy and Galle.

Council Chamber,
26th September, 1883.

SIR,—I AM directed to inform you that the Government is advised that the wording of clause 9 of "The Criminal Procedure Code, 1883," now under the consideration of the Legislative Council, will, unless it is modified, be construed as depriving the Municipal Bench of Magistrates of the powers which they have hitherto exercised under sections 32, 33, and 34 of Ordinance 17 of 1865.

2. To guide the Legislative Council in coming to a decision on the wording of the Code, I am to invite the opinion of your Council on the proposal which has been made to restrict the jurisdiction of the Bench in future to taking cognizance of offences against the Municipal Councils Ordinance and the bye-laws of the Council, leaving solely to the stipendiary Police Magistrates the cognizance of petty offences coming within their ordinary jurisdiction.

3. I am to state that the Council would be glad to be furnished with a return for the years 1st July, 1881, to 30th June, 1882, and from 1st July, 1882, to 30th June, 1883, showing what cases other than breaches of bye-laws and the Municipal Councils Ordinance have been entertained by the Bench of Magistrates of your Council.

4. I am to state that the discussion of this matter has been deferred to the 10th proximo, and your reply should be received not later than the day prior to that date. Should you be unable to complete the return applied for before that date, it may be sent afterwards, but your reply should not be delayed on that account.

5. I am to explain that the proposal mentioned in paragraph 2 has been made with no feeling of distrust in, or dissatisfaction with, the action of the Municipal Council Bench, but simply because it has been felt that the jurisdiction which they at present exercise concurrently with stipendiary magistrates is liable to be abused by disappointed suitors concealing the fact that they have already had resort to the stipendiary magistrate.

I have, &c.,
J. A. SWETTENHAM,
Clerk to the Council.

No. 2.

The SECRETARY of the Colombo Municipality to the Hon. the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Town Hall, Colombo,
No. 93. 9th October, 1883.

SIR,—THE Legislative Council having invited the opinion of the Municipal Council, by a letter dated the 26th September, 1883, regarding a proposal, referred to in the 2nd paragraph of the letter, to restrict the jurisdiction of the Bench of Magistrates, I am directed to state that the Municipal Council are unanimously of opinion that such jurisdiction should not be restricted as in the amendment received with your letter No. 83 of the 4th instant, and proposed to be introduced into clause 9 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

2. In the first place, I am to point out that the amendment in question does not agree with the 2nd paragraph of the letter of the 26th September, 1883, which speaks of a proposal to restrict the "jurisdiction of the Bench to taking cognizance of offences against the Municipal Councils' Ordinance and the bye-laws of the Council," while the actual amendment, as furnished with your letter No. 83, provides "that no Municipal Council shall have jurisdiction to deal with any offence other than an offence coming under any bye-law."

3. I am to submit that no satisfactory reason has been given for the proposed curtailment of the powers of Municipal Magistrates; and that if, as stated in the 5th paragraph of the letter

under reply, the Government have no reason to feel any "distrust in, or dissatisfaction with, the action of the Municipal Council Bench," the proposal to restrict its jurisdiction—or in other words, to lower the status of the Municipal Council, seems unnecessary and without good excuse.

4. The only reason which is attempted to be urged in defence of the proposed action of the Government is, that "it has been felt that the jurisdiction which they (the Bench) at present exercise concurrently with stipendiary magistrates is liable to be abused by disappointed suitors concealing the fact that they have already had resort to the stipendiary magistrate." Now, this feeling is entirely groundless. No such abuse is known to have occurred hitherto to the knowledge of the Council; and that advantage would be taken by a suitor in the manner above suggested, so as to bring about a conflict of authority, is highly improbable, if not impossible, as the opposite party would immediately expose any such attempt to the Bench, who, if the case had already been tried by another court, would have no power to try it again, or in the event of proceedings having been taken before another court, would surely feel bound to refuse to entertain a complaint already presented to another tribunal.

5. With regard to what is termed the evils of concurrent jurisdiction, I am to point out that the matter appears to have been viewed by the Government in a different light in 1866. When the Municipal Council then moved the Government to direct the Police Magistrate to refer to the Bench of Magistrates all cases in which they had concurrent jurisdiction, and which referred to matters that properly concerned the Municipal Council, with a view to enable the Council to ascertain more readily the sanitary and police wants of the town, the Government declined to entertain the proposal, on the advice of the Queen's Advocate that its adoption would interfere with the right of the suitor to elect his own tribunal.

6. The bye-laws of the Municipal Council of Colombo, as originally promulgated in 1866, 17 years ago, and which are still in force, impose on Municipal Inspectors the duty of prosecuting, on behalf of the Municipal Council; all offences against the Municipal Councils' Ordinance or bye-laws, the Cemeteries Ordinance, the Nuisances Ordinance, the Butchers' Ordinance, the Gunpowder Ordinance; and these prosecutions have been carried on before the Bench of Magistrates, by whom they have been disposed of with promptness and expedition, to the great convenience and advantage of the Council's officers. If these officers were required to attend a Police Court for the same purpose their whole time would be absorbed in attending to prosecutions, to the neglect of other and equally important duties.

7. It is obvious that the existing jurisdiction of the Bench of Magistrates was conferred upon them with a view to enable the Municipal Council to exercise that supervision over the sanitary and police wants of the town which is one of the proper functions of a Municipal Council; and that this was the intention of the Government is clear from the report of the Sub-Committee of the Legislative Council appointed in 1865 to report on the original Bill for establishing Municipal Councils in the Island.

8. The return furnished in accordance with the request contained in the 3rd paragraph of the letter from the Clerk to the Legislative Council, and a copy of which is enclosed, will show that the vast majority of cases disposed of by the Bench during the past two years related to matters connected with the protection of the municipal revenue or the sanitation and conservancy of the city, and were therefore most proper to be tried by the Municipal Bench. The only cases to which the remark does not perhaps apply were the 54 assault and 28 theft cases, and those under the Servants' Ordinance, preferred before the Bench, out of a total of 3,728 cases under the different heads shown in the return. The Municipal Council are by no means anxious to encourage this class of cases to come before them, as is evidenced by the figures above quoted, but in entertaining them they were guided by the opinion of a former Queen's Advocate, whose opinion was always considered to be entitled to the greatest weight, namely, that the right of a suitor to elect his own tribunal should not be interfered with. If, however, it is deemed advisable that such cases should not be entertained by the Bench of Magistrates, a letter to that effect to the Council would no doubt receive every attention.

9. If, as expressed in the report already referred to in the 7th paragraph, it was the wish and intention of the Government, when Municipal Institutions were first proposed, to offer sufficient inducement to "men of position and influence" to take part in the Municipal Councils of Ceylon, by vesting the Councillors with such powers as would make their position one of dignity and importance, it cannot surely comport with that wish or intention to lower the status of a Councillor by depriving him of powers and privileges he has continued to exercise during the past 18 years, and for the removal of which no valid reason has been assigned. It would, moreover, be unfair to the people who have hitherto been permitted to exercise the privilege of electing Councillors vested with magisterial powers equal to those of a Police Magistrate, to curtail those powers and thus virtually curtail privileges enjoyed by the people for the last 18 years.

10. The Municipal Council would, therefore, earnestly hope that the Government will reconsider their intention, and refuse to take a step so retrograde, as it must inevitably tend to the discouragement of fit and proper persons from taking part in the administration of our Municipal Councils. They desire to impress on the Government the necessity for preserving to Municipal Councillors, when two or more of them are sitting as a Bench of Magistrates, the full powers and authority of a Police Magistrate.

11. With this view, I am to suggest that, instead of the amendment forwarded with your letter No. 83, a proviso be added to the 9th clause of the Procedure Code similar to that referred to in the 11th paragraph of the Report of the Commissioners on the Administration of Justice Code of 1879, as follows:—

"Municipal Councillors authorized by law to sit as a Bench of Magistrates in open court for the trial of crimes and offences, shall, while so sitting, constitute a Police Court in and for the Municipality, vested with such jurisdiction and powers within the limits of the Municipality."

Whether the procedure to be adopted by Municipal Courts should follow that provided for Police Courts in the new Code, or remain as before, the Council would leave the Government to determine. In any case provision should be made to regulate such procedure.

I am, &c.,
EDWIN LUDOVICI,
Secretary.

STATEMENT of the institutions under various Ordinances and Bye-laws in the Court of the Bench of Magistrates of the Colombo Municipality, from 1st July, 1881, to 30th June, 1882.

No. of Cases.	Nature of offence.	Ordinances under which charges were laid.
656	Bye-laws	—
13	Exposed privies and building privies without consent of Council (sanitary)	Ord. 17 of 1865.
429	Keeping filthy premises, foul privies, and ruinous buildings (sanitary)	Ord. 15 of 1862.
282	Exposing goods on sides of roads (market rents)	Ord. 16 of 1865.
65	Small-pox (sanitary)	Ord. 8 of 1866.
97	Not returning old plates of carriages and for carriage hire (hackney carriages)	Ord. 17 of 1873.
69	Plying for hire without Government plate, &c. (hackney carriages)	Ord. 14 of 1865.
45	Short weights and measures (Markets)	Ord. 14 of 1878.
31	Having tats and attaching additions to project over the road (sanitary and municipal thoroughfares)	Ord. 10 of 1861.
7	Not affixing signboard to liquor shops (municipal taverns)	Ord. 7 of 1873.
24	Not producing children to be vaccinated (sanitary)	Ord. 9 of 1863.
1	Removing sand from sea beach (damage to municipal thoroughfares)	Ord. 20 of 1865.
13	Ill-treating and torturing horses and bulls used in carriages and hackeries, &c. (hackney carriages)	Ord. 7 of 1862.
1	Recovering additional toll	Ord. 14 of 1867.
1	Slaughtering without license (municipal finances)	Ord. 14 of 1859.
30	Disorderly conduct on public roads	Ord. 4 of 1841.
12	Destroying fences, &c.	Ord. 6 of 1846.
13	Quitting service without notice	Ord. 11 of 1865.
31	Assault	—
18	Theft	—
1,838		

STATEMENT of the institutions under various Ordinances and Bye-laws in the Court of the Bench of Magistrates of the Colombo Municipality, from 1st July, 1882, to 30th June, 1883.

No. of Cases.	Nature of offence.	Ordinances under which charges were laid.
743	Bye-laws	—
22	Exposed privies and building privies without consent of Council (sanitary)	Ord. 17 of 1865.
423	Keeping filthy premises, foul privies, and ruinous buildings (sanitary)	Ord. 15 of 1862
377	Exposing goods on sides of roads (market rents)	Ord. 16 of 1865.
38	Small-pox (sanitary)	Ord. 8 of 1866.
35	Not returning old plates of carriages and for carriage hire (hackney carriages)	Ord. 17 of 1873.
57	Plying for hire without Government plate, &c. (hackney carriages	Ord. 14 of 1865.
50	Short weights and measures (markets)	Ord. 14 of 1878.
14	Having tats and attaching additions to project over the road (sanitary and municipal thoroughfares)	Ord. 10 of 1861.
5	Not affixing signboard to liquor shops (municipal taverns)	Ord. 7 of 1873.
15	Not producing children to be vaccinated (sanitary)	Ord. 9 of 1863.
7	Removing sand from sea beach (damage to municipal thoroughfares)	Ord. 20 of 1865.
20	Ill-treating and torturing horses and bulls used in carriages and hackeries, &c. (hackney carriages)	Ord. 7 of 1862.
2	Not stamping bread	Ord. 13 of 1864.
4	Not affixing signboard, &c., to opium dens (municipal finances)	Ord. 4 of 1878.
35	Disorderly conduct on public roads	Ord. 4 of 1841.
3	Destroying fences, &c	Ord. 6 of 1846.
4	Quitting service without notice	Ord. 11 of 1865.
3	Not registering servants	Ord. 28 of 1871.
23	Assault	—
10	Theft	—
1,890		

Town Hall,
Colombo, 4th October, 1883.

SIMON SILVA,
Chief Clerk, Bench of Magistrates.

No. 3.

The SECRETARY of the Galle Municipality to the CLERK of the Legislative Council.

Municipal Council's Office,
Galle, 8th October, 1883.

No. 23.

SIR,—WITH reference to your letter to the Chairman, dated the 26th September last, inviting the opinion of the Municipal Council on the proposal which has been made to restrict the jurisdiction of the Municipal Bench of Magistrates to taking cognizance of offences against the

Municipal Council's Ordinance and the Bye-Laws of the Council, I am directed in reply, to state that the Council objects to the jurisdiction of the Municipal Bench being in any way curtailed, and that it considers it absolutely necessary that the Bench should have full power to deal not only with offences against the Municipal Council's Ordinance and the Bye-Laws, but with all offences relating to nuisances, or in any way affecting the public health, safety, rights or convenience, which are either by the Penal Code or any other law made cognizable by the Police Court.

The return which you have asked for and which is herewith forwarded will show that the Bench has not during the past two years taken cognizance of any offences except such as concern the inhabitants at large, and no such cases as are referred to in the last paragraph of your letter have occurred in consequence of the concurrent jurisdiction exercised by the Municipal Bench.

I have, &c.,
J. E. ANTHONISZ,
Secretary.

Return referred to.

RETURN showing the Number of Cases other than breaches of the Municipal Councils' Ordinance and Bye-Laws entertained by the Bench of Magistrates for the two years from 1st July, 1881, to 30th June, 1883.

	1st July, 1881, to 30th June 1882.	1st July, 1882, to 30th June, 1883.	TOTAL.
Number of cases instituted for breach of Ordinance:			
No. 26 of 1822, clause 2 ...	5 ...	— ...	5
4 of 1841, „ 2 ...	— ...	1 ...	1
10 of 1861, „ 94 ...	9 ...	12 ...	21
7 of 1862, „ 1 ...	— ...	1 ...	1
15 of 1862, „ 1 ...	196 ...	188 ...	384
16 of 1865, „ 53 ...	41 ...	17 ...	58
14 of 1867, „ 17 ...	6 ...	2 ...	8
11 of 1868, „ 170 ...	2 ...	— ...	2
17 of 1873, „ 15 ...	3 ...	3 ...	6
Total	262 ...	224 ...	486

The number of cases under the Municipal Councils' Ordinance and Bye-laws entertained

From 1st July, 1881, to 30th June, 1882, was 128
„ 1st July, 1882, to 30th June, 1883, was 311

439

No. 4.

The SECRETARY of the Kandy Municipality to the CLERK of the Legislative Council.

Town Hall, Kandy,
No. 32. 8th October, 1883.

SIR,—I AM directed by the Municipal Council of Kandy to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th September last, and in reply to state that they are of opinion that it would not be desirable to restrict the powers hitherto exercised by the Bench of Magistrates under the Ordinance No. 17 of 1865, for to do so would have the effect, not only of lowering the status of the Institution, but also virtually of defeating the object for which the Municipality was created and brought into existence.

2. It may be here stated that no case of the kind referred to in the 5th paragraph of your letter has ever occurred since the establishment of the Municipality in this town, and there is no reason whatever for assuming that the "abuse" apprehended would ever arise, for the opposite party in the case would be sure to bring the fact to notice, and punishment would at once follow; and the Council therefore consider that the Government would not be justified in adopting the proposed modification, by which it is sought to abridge the rights now vested in the Bench of Magistrates.

3. If any reason, however, be needed to show why the powers should remain intact, it is to be found in the fact that the Bench of Magistrates have discharged their duties for a considerable number of years to the satisfaction of the public, and of the Government as well; and that their services have been successful is apparent from the expression of confidence contained in your letter under reply, and from the small number of appeals from the decisions of the Bench—only seven in two years out of 1,910 cases decided.

4. I am directed further to point out that there are several offences made penal by our Statutes, such as breaches of the "Nuisance Ordinance," and of the "Police Ordinance," "Weights and Measures Ordinance," "Butchers' Ordinance," and "Carriage Ordinance," and such like, and the Council consider that all cases arising under these Ordinances would more properly be cognizable and would be more effectually dealt with by the Bench of Magistrates than by the Police Court. The bye-laws can be, and in point of fact, are, from time to time modified with a view to the more thorough working of such Ordinances. Again, in a gross case of a breach of the provisions of such an Ordinance, affecting the sanitation of the town, the Municipal Court would ensure its being promptly dealt with instead of its being left to take its chance in the routine of the Police Court.

5. The returns called for by you, and herewith forwarded, show clearly the large number of prosecutions other than those under the bye-laws which have been instituted by the officers of the Municipality, and tried and disposed of by the Bench; and the Council will therefore perceive that the proposed restriction of the jurisdiction of the Municipal Court, whilst it would, on the one hand, increase the business of the Police Court, it would, on the other, seriously interfere with the due and proper working of the Municipality.

6. The number of Inspectors at present attached to the Municipality is only three, and their time is fully occupied daily in attending to the market, the slaughter-house, and in carrying on the "house-to-house" inspection, and in furnishing reports, in addition to their ordinary duties; and they have also to attend the Court daily to lodge their complaints against the offenders under the Ordinances, as well as for breaches of the bye-laws. Should any portion of the jurisdiction of the Bench, therefore, be taken away, it would necessarily disturb the present departmental arrangements, because it could not be expected that Inspectors would be able to give their undivided attention to cases prosecuted in both Courts at the same time; and, besides, it would be almost impossible for the Municipal Council to carry on the working of the Institution satisfactorily with the present staff of officers. To increase the number would certainly entail expense, and the Council is not prepared to incur any additional expenditure in the present depressed state of its finances.

7. If the proposed modifications were carried out, the Municipal Council apprehend that much confusion and inconvenience would arise thereby; for instance, the Municipal bye-laws provide for cases of resistance to Inspectors and other officers of the Municipal Council, and, in the event of such a prosecution before the Bench of Magistrates, should it turn out that the charge of resistance could not be maintained owing to some technical difficulty, but that the accused was guilty of assault only, the Bench of Magistrates would necessarily have to discharge the accused for want of jurisdiction. Cases of this nature have often occurred in the town, and if, on the question of jurisdiction, defendants were allowed to go unpunished in future for similar offences, it would no doubt materially affect the due administration of justice.

8. The Municipal Council beg further to point out that the Bench of Magistrates in this town have generally refused to entertain complaints which would come legitimately within the ordinary jurisdiction of the Stipendiary Magistrate, as the returns will show, except in rare instances and under exceptional circumstances.

9. Under these circumstances the Municipal Council hope that the Bench of Magistrates will not be deprived of the rights and privileges they have hitherto enjoyed and exercised, but that those rights and privileges will be allowed to remain intact.

I am, &c.,
H. BYRDE,
Secretary.

RETURN of Cases entertained by the Bench of Magistrates from 1st July, 1881, to 30th June, 1882, under Ordinances other than those under the Municipal Councils' Ordinance, or the Bye-laws.

No. of Cases.	Nature of Offence.	Clause and Ordinance under which charges were laid.
39 ...	Keeping or suffering houses, buildings or lands in or near roads, streets or public thoroughfares in a filthy and unwholesome state so as to be a nuisance to, or injurious to, the health of the public ...	Sec. 1, cl. 1 of Ord. 15 of 1862.
40 ...	Having foul or offensive ditches, gutters, drains, privies, cesspools or other receptacles in or upon houses, buildings, or lands ...	Sec. 1, cl. 2 of do.
1 ...	Keeping for more than 24 hours an accumulation of filth otherwise than in some proper receptacle	Sec. 1, cl. 3 of do.
1 ...	Suffering stagnant water to remain within premises . .	Sec. 1, cl. 6 of do.
1 ...	Putting or throwing night soil into public drains ...	Sec. 1, cl. 7 of do.
14 ...	Keeping in markets, stalls or places used for the sale of butchers' meat, fish, fruit, vegetable, &c., or exposing or allowing to be exposed for sale in places, meat, fish, fruit or vegetable which was unfit for the food of man	Sec. 1, cl. 8 of do.
5 ...	Selling, offering or exposing for sale as food for man, articles which had been rendered or had become noxious, or unfit for such use, knowing or having reason to believe the same to be noxious or unfit for such use	Sec. 1, cl. 9 of do.
1 ...	Keeping manure in a place in such a manner so as to be a nuisance to, or injurious to, the health of the public	Sec. 1, cl. 11 of Ord. 15 of 1862.
4 ...	Putting, or throwing, or permitting servants to throw or put earth, filth, or other rubbish on public places	Sec. 1, cl. 12 of do.
1 ...	Obstructing and molesting an officer of the Municipality in the performance and execution of his duty	Sec. 16, do.
22 ...	Keeping conveyance in streets or roads longer than was required for loading or unloading goods or for taking up or setting down passengers	Sec. 53, cl. 3 of Ord. 16 of 1865.
12 ...	Exposing articles or things on roads or streets which obstructed passengers or frightened horses	Sec. 53, cl. 4 of do.
5 ...	Throwing or laying down dirt, filth, rubbish, or building materials on streets	Sec. 53, cl. 5 of do.
1 ...	Driving or leading conveyance after dark and before daylight without lighted lanterns	Sec. 53, cl. 9 of do.
1 ...	Bathing in a place not set apart for that purpose ...	Sec. 53, cl. 7 of do.
1 ...	Permitting carriage to obstruct the passage of street and not removing it immediately when ordered so to do	Sec. 82 of do.
29 ...	Laying or causing to be laid, dirt, rubbish, or other matters of annoyance or obstruction on roads, streets or thoroughfares ...	Sec. 92 of do.

No. of Cases.	Nature of offence.	Clause and Ordinance under which charges were laid.
65 ...	Exposing goods for sale on roads, streets or public thoroughfares so as to cause an obstruction therein	Sec. 93 of Ord. 16 of 1865.
11 ...	Neglecting to keep clean the space and street or road before houses or avenues, passages, yards and ways	Sec. 94 of do.
1 ...	Committing nuisance by easing in roads or streets ...	Sec. 95 of do.
2 ...	Omitting to fix plate issued with licence on carriage in such manner that the number thereon shall be visible	Sec. 14, cl. 2 of Ord. 17 of 1873.
4 ...	Failing to return to office plate issued with licence within six days after the expiration of the period mentioned in such license ...	Sec. 14, cl. 3 of do.
4 ...	Letting for hire carriages without license	Sec. 14, cl. 5 of do.
2 ...	Using weights not stamped by persons buying, selling or receiving by weights	Sec. 11 of Ordinance 8 of 1876.
2*a* ...	Cutting and removing wood from Crown land which has been set apart and defined as reserved forest land	Sec. 19 of Ordinance 6 of 1878.
5*b* ...	Assault	—
2*c* ...	Theft	—
276		

NOTES.—*a* Both were instituted by watcher of Municipal Council.
b Of the five, two were instituted by Municipal coolies, two by private parties—assault committed in the public market, and one by a jail peon.
c Instituted by watcher of Municipal Council and by a jail peon for stealing mangoes from municipal property.

Bench of Magistrates' Office,
Kandy, 8th October, 1883.

(Signed) S. DE SILVA,
Clerk to Bench of Magistrates.

"True copy."

H. BYRDE,
Secretary, Municipal Council, Kandy.

RETURN of Cases entertained by the Bench of Magistrates from 1st July, 1882, to 30th June, 1883, under Ordinances other than those under the Municipal Councils' Ordinance, or the Bye-laws.

No. of Cases.	Nature of offence.	Clause and Ordinance under which charges were laid.
5*a* ...	Behaving in a riotous or disorderly manner in streets or highways ..	Sec. 2 of Ord. 4 of 1841.
2 ..	Gaming or betting in streets, or roads, or in places kept or used for the purpose of common or promiscuous gaming with dice, cards, etc.	Sec. 4, cl. 4, do.
1*b* ...	Finding a person in a garden who was unable to give a satisfactory account of himself, or who had been there for an unlawful purpose	Sec. 4, cl. 6, do.
1 ...	Keeping or using house for the purpose of common or promiscuous gaming with dice, &c.	Sec. 19 of do.
1 ...	Delivering commutation tax receipt given to a person by the Division Officer to another person, in order that such last-mentioned person may make use of the same in proof of his having paid the tax due by him	Sec. 65 of Ord. 10 of 1861.
2 ...	Suffering accumulation of dirt or rubbish in drains opposite to houses or lands to impede the flow of water	Sec. 91, cl. 5, do.
1 ...	Pigs straying in road	Sec. 94, cl. 2, do.
1 ...	Laying or throwing stones and bricks on road ...	Sec. 94, cl. 7, do.
132 ...	Keeping houses, buildings or lands in or near roads, streets or public thoroughfares in a filthy and unwholesome state so as to be a nuisance to, or injurious to, the health of the public	Sec. 1, cl. 1, Ord. 15 of 1862.
152 ...	Having in or upon houses, buildings, or lands occupied by people, foul or offensive ditches, gutters, drains, privies, cesspools, or other receptacles	Sec. 1, cl. 2, do.
6 ...	Keeping or allowing to be kept for more than 24 hours, otherwise than in some proper receptacle, accumulations of dung, offal, filth, refuse, or other noxious or offensive matter, being occupiers of houses, buildings, or lands in or near roads, streets, or public thoroughfares	Sec. 1, cl. 3, do.
3 ...	Keeping in or upon houses, buildings, or lands, occupied by people, cattle, goats or other animals so as to be a nuisance to, or injurious to, the health of the public	Sec. 1, cl. 4, do.
33 ...	Allowing houses, buildings, or walls, owned by persons to be in a ruinous state, or in any way dangerous to the inhabitants of such houses or buildings, or to the neighbouring houses or buildings, or to the occupiers thereof	Sec. 1, cl. 5, do.
2 ...	Throwing, putting, casting or causing to enter on streams, tanks, reservoirs, etc., dead animals, dirt, rubbish, filth, etc. ...	Sec. 1, cl. 7, Ord. 15 of 1865.
14	Keeping in markets, shops, stalls, etc., used for the sale of butchers' meat, fish, fruit, vegetable, &c., or exposing or allowing to be exposed for sale in places or ways, meat, flesh, fish, fruit, vegetable, &c., which were unfit for the food of man ...	Sec. 1, cl. 8, do.
4 ...	Selling, offering, or exposing for sale as food for man articles which had been rendered, or had become noxious, or unfit for such use, knowing or having reason to believe the same to be noxious, or unfit for such use	Sec. 1, cl. 9, do.
8 ...	Throwing, putting, or permitting servants to throw or put earth, dirt, ashes, filth, refuse from gardens, kitchens, or stables, or any broken glass, or earthenware or other rubbish on streets, roads, public places or passages, or into sewers or drains ...	Sec. 1, cl. 12, do.

No. of Cases.	Nature of Offence.	Clause and Ordinance under which charges were laid.
1 ...	Obstructing or molesting an officer of the Municipality in the performance and execution of his duty	Sec. 16 of Ord. 15 of 1865.
19 ...	Keeping cattle or conveyances in roads or streets longer than was required for loading or unloading goods, or for taking up or setting down passengers, or leaving cattle or conveyances in such a manner as to cause inconvenience or danger to the public ..	Sec. 53, cl. 3, Ord. 16 of 1865.
2 ...	Neglecting to surround wells with walls two feet, at least, in height, and keep such walls of that height in good and sufficient repair ...	Sec. 80 of do.
1 ...	Permitting carriages to obstruct the passage of street, and not removing the same when ordered so to do by officer of police ...	Sec. 82 of do.
4 ...	Discharging crackers or fireworks so as to terrify or injure passengers, horses, or cattle, or to injure any property	Sec. 90 of do.
15 ...	Laying or causing to be laid, or cast, dirt, rubbish, or other matters of annoyance or obstruction on roads, streets, canals or thoroughfares, &c., or into any sewers, drains or water-course, etc. ...	Sec. 92 of Ord. 15 of 1862.
109 ...	Exposing goods for sale, or carrying on the trade or business in roads, streets, or public thoroughfares so as to cause obstruction therein	Sec. 93 of do.
10 ...	Neglecting to keep the spaces and streets or roads, and surface-drains, ditches and gutters before houses clean	Sec. 94 of Ord. 16 of 1865.
5 ...	Easing in places within limits of town where persons are not allowed so to do	Sec. 95 of do.
10 ...	Neglecting to surround with walls or good fences, houses and gardens within limits of town	Sec 97 of do.
2 ...	Bathing or washing in places not set apart for that purpose ...	Sec. 53, cl. 7, do.
15 ...	Neglecting to paint in a conspicuous part on the outside of carriages the classes and numbers of persons to be carried therein, so that they may at all times be plainly and distinctly visible and legible; suffering carriages, horses or other equipments unfit for public use to be used after service of notice by Municipal Council; suffering carriages to stand or loiter in streets, etc.; or neglecting to wear a jacket or coat, and carry badges provided by the Council ...	Sec. 13 of Ord. 17 of 1873.
3 ...	Neglecting or omitting to fix plates issued by the Municipal Council to carriage hirers in such manner that the numbers thereon shall be at all times plainly and distinctly visible and legible ...	Sec. 14 of do.
37 ...	Failing to return the plates to the office from which carriage hirers received them within six days after the expiration of the period for which the licenses granted	Sec. 14, cl. 3, do.
17 ...	Letting carriages for hire without having licenses or after licenses had ceased to be in force	Sec. 14, cl. 4, do.
1 ...	Persons found drunk and incapable of taking care of themselves in public roads	Sec. 21 of Ord. 7 of 1873.
1 ...	Using weights by a person buying, selling, or receiving by them which were not in conformity with the standards established and not stamped	Sec. 11 of Ord. 8 of 1876.
2c ...	Cutting and removing wood from Crown land which has been set apart and defined as reserved forest land	Sec. 19 of Ord. 6 of 1878.
3d ..	Theft	—
13e ...	Assault	—
1 f ...	Assault and false imprisonment	—
639		

NOTES.—*a* Three by private parties and two by Municipal Inspectors.
b By a private party.
c By Municipal watcher.
d Two by private parties, and one by the police.
e Seven by Municipal officers, three by private parties—assault committed in the public market, and three by private parties.
f By a private party.

Bench of Magistrates' Office,
Kandy, 8th October, 1883.

S. DE SILVA,
Clerk to the Bench of Magistrates.

"True copy."

H. BYRDE,
Secretary, Municipal Council, Kandy.

XII.—1883.

CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CODE.

REPORT of a SUB-COMMITTEE of the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL appointed to report upon Schedule I. of the Bill intituled "An Ordinance for regulating the Procedure of the Courts of Criminal Judicature."

Ordered by the Legislative Council to be Printed.

Colombo:

FRANK LUKER, ACTING GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1883.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of a Meeting of the Legislative Council, held at the Council Chamber, on the 25th August, 1883.

The following gentlemen were appointed a Sub-Committee to whom were entrusted the framing of Schedule I. to the Bill intituled "An Ordinance for regulating the Procedure of the Courts of Criminal Judicature."

The Hon. W. H. RAVENSCROFT, Acting Colonial Secretary.
The Hon. F. FLEMING, Queen's Advocate.
The Hon. F. R. SAUNDERS, Government Agent, Western Province.
The Hon. J. VANLANGENBERG, The Hon. P. RÁMA-NÁTHAN, The Hon. W. W. MITCHELL, } Unofficial Members.

CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CODE.

THE Sub-Committee appointed to consider what Ordinances should be placed in Schedule I. of the Criminal Procedure Code, have the honour to submit a list of Ordinances and Rules of Court which might form Schedule I.

They recommend that clause 2 of the Criminal Procedure Code should be amended by the insertion after the word "Ordinances" of the words "and Rules of Court."

With regard to weights and measures, the Sub-Committee observe that the Penal Code does not go so far as the local Ordinances, but if the Code be amended by inserting the word "false" in clause 262* before the words "instrument," "weight" and "measure," respectively, and by omitting the word "fraudulently" in line 1 of clause 260,† in lines 1 and 2 of clause 261,‡ and in line 3 of clause 262,* as well as the words "which he knows to be false and" in clause 262,* the Sub-Committee consider that section 7 of Ordinance No. 14 of 1878 might be repealed.

W. H. RAVENSCROFT.
F. FLEMING.
F. R. SAUNDERS.
J. VANLANGENBERG.
P. RAMA-NATHAN.
W. W. MITCHELL.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Colombo, 8th October, 1883.

* Now 259. † Now 257. ‡ Now 258.

SCHEDULE I.

Ordinances affected or repealed by the Penal Code and the Criminal Procedure Code.

Number and Year.	Extent of Repeal.	Corresponding Sections or Chapter in Codes.
Proclamation 23rd Sep., 1799	Sec 4 : the proviso ...	By 373, 398 C P C
1 of 1834	The whole Ordinance ...	175 P C
3 of 1836	sec 16, all the words beginning with "and if any constable, &c.," to the end	162 P C
4 of 1841	sub-secs 5, 6 and 7 of sec 4 ...	449, 450 and 451 P C
3 of 1842	secs 3 and 4 ...	188 P C
11 of 1842	sec 20 ...	291 P C
8 of 1844	sec 2 ...	288 P C
10 of 1844	sec 60 ...	158 and 183 P C
3 of 1846	sec 6, the last paragraph beginning with "and every person" ..... and ending with "perjury"	188 P C
6 of 1846	The whole Ordinance ...	408 to 426 P C
12 of 1846	sec 24 ...	291 P C
6 of 1850	Whole Ordinance { sec 1 ...	Cr P C
	sec 2 ...	212 P C
	sec 3 ...	112 P C
9 of 1852	secs 10, 11, 12, 14 and 16 ..	471, 473, 474, 136, 352, 368 Cr P C and 163 and 452 P C
12 of 1852	The whole Ordinance ...	ch xviii Cr P C
	{ sec 1, 2 and 3 ...	201 Cr P C
	secs 4, 5, 6 and 7 ...	ch xviii Cr P C
	sec 8 ...	490 P C
	sec 11 ...	32 and 36 P C
	secs 9, 12 and 13 ...	211 and 208 Cr P C
	secs 15 and 16 ..	ch xviii Cr P C
6 of 1855	The whole Ordinance ...	378, 380, 381 and 393 of Cr P C and 63 and 66 of P C
2 of 1857	sec 8 to the end of the Ordinance inclusive	165 and 408 P C
	{ secs 11, 12 and 13 ...	164, 165 and 166 P C
	secs 14 and 15 ...	465 P C
5 of 1857	The whole Ordinance ..	ch xii P C
5 of 1861	secs 29 and 30 ...	423, 424 and 425 P C
10 of 1861	sec 43, the words "and any householder neglecting or refusing to give such information, or wilfully giving false information to the division officer or to the person acting on his behalf, as to any such matter or thing, shall be liable to a fine not exceeding five pounds"	175 P C
	sec 46 1st sub-section and sec 83 ...	162 and 183 P C
16 of 1861	The whole Ordinance ...	502 C P C
18 of 1861	The whole Ordinance ...	ch vi, xviii, xix, xxvii, and xxxi Cr P C
12 of 1862	sec 29 ...	408 P C
15 of 1862	sec 1 except sub-sec 12 (*a*) ...	261, 265 and 271 P C
	sec 2 ..	115, 116 and 123, ch x Cr P C
13 of 1863	sec 24 ...	179 P C
	sec 26 ...	455 P C
5 of 1864	sec 21 ...	291 P C
5 of 1865	The whole Ordinance except sections 6, 16, 17, 18 and 19	ch xviii, 472 *et seqq* of P C
6 of 1865	secs 37 and 38 ...	183 and 416 P C
10 of 1865	secs 19 and 31 ...	183 and 162 P C
16 of 1865	secs 52, 56, 60, 64, 68, 71, 72, 75, 77, 88 and 89	33 Cr P C, ch xii and 183 P C
	sec 63, excepting the words "If in the execution of process it shall be found necessary for the officer of police employed to serve such process to go any distance beyond five miles, the person at whose instance the process is issued shall be bound to lodge at the time he applies for the process a sum sufficient to cover the officer's travelling allowances, at such rates as the Governor shall from time to time appoint"	33, 35, 36, 34, 134, 109 Cr P C
	sec 72, except the words "any police officer who shall be guilty of cowardice shall be liable to a fine not exceeding twelve months' pay, or to imprisonment with or without hard labour not exceeding twelve months, or to both"	ch x Cr. P C
	secs 92, 93, 96, and 99 ..	184, 162, 158, 168, 169, 183, 276 272, 138, 485 and 58 P C

NOTES.—(*a*) The Sub-Committee are in doubt whether chapters X. and XI. of the Criminal Procedure Code are intended to supersede the actions of Board of Health in preventing nuisances, or whether they are to be enforced concurrently with Boards of Health.

Number and Year.	Extent of Repeal.	Corresponding Sections or Chapter in Codes.
17 of 1865	secs 32 and 96, (*b*) ...	By 408 P C and Cr P C
28 of 1865	The whole Ordinance ...	Cr P C
4 of 1866	sec 4 ...	183 P C
4 of 1867	sec 29, all the words beginning with "any person swearing," &c., to the end	188 P C
	secs 23 and 24 } So far as they concern criminal matters only.	162 and 158 P C
	sec 25	59 Cr P C
	sec 30	25, 27 and 46 Cr P C
	secs 64 and 65	182 P C
18 of 1867	secs 29 and 30 ...	175, 162, 408 and 455 P C
21 of 1867	sec 17 ...	183 P C
11 of 1868	secs 19, 20 and 21 } So far as they concern criminal matters	7, 400 and 404 Cr C P 414, 415 Cr P C
	sec 22 so far only as concerns the transfer of criminal cases and the inspection of records therein by the Supreme Court ...	426, 487 and 488 (ch xli) Cr P C
	sec 23 } So far as they concern criminal matters	453 Cr P C
	sec 25	
	sec 26	424 and 508 Cr P C
	sec 27	419 Cr P C
	sec 28	7 and 406 Cr P C
	secs 30, 31 and 32	410 Cr P C
	secs 36, 37 ...	ch xxii Cr P C see also 287 Cr P C
	sec 39 ...	311 Cr P C
	sec 40 ...	310 Cr P C
	sec 41 ...	374 Cr P C
	secs 42 ...	ch xxviii Cr P C
	sec 43 ...	396 Cr P C and 374 C P C
	sec 44 ..	424 and 425 Cr P C
	secs 49 and 50 .	478 Cr P C
	sec 56 so far as concerns the appointment of places for holding Police Courts	
	sec 59 } So far as they concern criminal matters ...	13 Cr P C, and see ch xxxiii
	sec 64	
	sec 66 ...	8, 13 and 137 Cr P C
	sec 67 ...	15, Cr P C
	sec 68 ...	ch iii Cr P C
	sec 69 ...	chs x and xi Cr P C
	sec 74 } So far as they concern criminal matters	Cr P C
	sec 75	ch xxi Cr P C
	sec 79	Cr P C
		406 Cr P C
	sec 88 ...	445 C P C
	sec 89 ...	3 and 393 C P C
	sec 90 ...	445 C P C
	sec 94 ...	9, 137, 138, 139 Cr P C
	sec 95 ..	16 Cr P C
	sec 96 ...	—
	sec 97 ...	Cr P C
	sec 98 ...	chs x and xi Cr P C
	sec 99 ...	9 and 149 Cr P C
	sec 100 ..	65 and 218 Cr P C
	sec 101 ...	152 ch xv Cr P C
	sec 102 ...	219 Cr P C
	sec 103 ...	237, Cr P C
	sec 104 ...	88 Cr P C
	sec 105 ...	191 P C
	sec 106 ..	236 Cr P C
	sec 107 ...	ch xiv (B) Cr P C
	sec 108 ...	406 ch xxxi Cr P C
	sec 109 ...	429 Cr P C
	sec 110 ...	—
	sec 111 ...	ch xx Cr P C sec 254 and 255
	sec 112 ...	259 Cr P C
	sec 113 ..	239 to 254 ch xx Cr P C
	sec 114 ...	242 Cr P C
	sec 120 ...	320 Cr P C
	sec 121 ...	321 and 322 Cr PC
	sec 122 ...	323 and 327 Cr P C
	secs 123 and 124 ...	324 Cr P C
	sec 125 ...	ch xxiii Cr P C
	sec 126 ...	326 and 327 Cr P C
	sec 127 ...	327 Cr P C
	sec 128 ...	339 Cr P C
	sec 129 ...	287 Cr P C
	sec 130 ...	290 Cr P C
	sec 131 ...	288 Cr P C
	sec 132 ..	292 Cr P C
	sec 133 ...	295 Cr P C
	sec 134 ...	343 and 344 Cr P C

(*b*) Certain Members of the Sub-Committee entertain a doubt as to the effect upon the jurisdiction of the Municipal Council Bench of Magistrates of chapter II. of the Criminal Procedure Code, and its consequent effect upon sections 32, 33 and 34 of Ordinance 17 of 1865.

Number and Year.	Extent of Repeal.	Corresponding Sections or Chapter in Codes.
11 of 1868	sec 135 ...	By ch ix P C
	sec 136 ...	174 P C
	sec 137 ...	173 P C
	sec 138 ...	345 Cr P C
	sec 140 except the words "every Justice of the Peace shall have power, and is hereby required, to administer any oath which any person may be legally entitled to make before a Justice of the Peace"	
	sec 141 ...	ch iv Cr P C
	sec 142 ..	161 Cr P C
	sec 143 ..	162 Cr P C
	secs 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, and 152 ...	chs iv, v and vi Cr P C
	sec 153 ...	57 and 58 C P C
	secs 154, 155 and 156 ..	27 and 37 ch v C P C
	sec 157 ...	353 Cr P C
	secs 158, 159, 160, 161 and 162 ..	59, 52 and 27 ch v and vi Cr P C
	secs 163 and 164 ..	162 and 158 P C
	sec 165 ..	183 and 219 P C
	sec 166 ...	175 P C
	sec 167 ..	
	secs 168 and 169 ...	sec 43 Cr P C
	sec 170 ..	213 P C
	secs 171, 172 and 173 ...	62, 63 and 64 Cr P C
	secs 174, 175 and 176 ..	ch vii (B) Cr P C
	secs 177 and 178 ..	81 and 82 Cr P C
	secs 179, 180, 181, and 182 ...	ch vi (D) Cr P C
	sec 183 ...	136, 163, 165, 352, 358 and 500 Cr P C
	sec 184 ...	449, Cr P C
	sec 185 ..	ch vi Cr P C
	sec 186 ..	350 Cr P C
	sec 187 ..	
	sec 188 ...	454 ch xxxvi Cr P C
	sec 189 ..	241 and 252 Cr P C
	sec 190 ..	168, 175, 177 and 241, Cr P C
	sec 191 ..	ch xiv, Cr P C
	sec 192 ...	165 and 173, Cr P C
	sec 193 ...	170, Cr P C
	sec 194 ..	494, Cr P C
	sec 195 ...	181, Cr P C
	sec 196 ..	ch xx, Cr P C
	sec 197 ..	
	sec 198 ..	243, 246, Cr P C
	sec 199 ...	—
	sec 200 ...	—
	sec 201 ...	96, 219, and 350, Cr P C
	sec 202 ...	248, Cr P C
	sec 203 ..	—
	secs 204 and 205 ...	455 and 456, Cr P C
	sec 206 ...	454 and 457, Cr P C
	secs 207 and 208 ...	456 and 459, Cr P C
	secs 209 and 210, 212, 213, 214, 215 and 216	—
	sec 211 ...	475, Cr P C
	sec 217 ...	455, Cr P C
	secs 218, 219 and 220 ...	—
	sec 221 ..	88, Cr P C
	secs 222, 223, and 224 ...	93, 98, 99, and 103, Cr P C
	secs 225, 226, and 227 ...	chs viii (C) Cr P C
	sec 228 ...	108, Cr P C
	sec 229 ...	ch xxx and xxxi, Cr P C
	sec 230 ...	101, Cr P C
	sec 231 ...	ch xxxix, Cr P C
	secs 232, and 233 ...	90 and 91, Cr P C
	secs 234 and 235 ...	92 and 103 Cr P C
	sec 236 ...	106 Cr P C
	sec 237 ...	—
	secs 238 to 241 inclusive ...	—
	sec 242 ...	195 Cr P C
	secs 243 and 244 ...	23 and 24, Cr P C
	secs 245, 246 and 247 ...	ch xvii, Cr P C
	sec 248 ...	188, 189, and 192, Cr P C
	secs 249, 250, 251, 252 and 253 ...	ch xvii, Cr P C
	sec 254 ...	ch xvii and sec 190, Cr P C
	secs 255, 256, 257, 258 and 259 ...	ch xvii, Cr P C
	sec 260 ...	193, Cr P C
	sec 261 ...	ch xvii, Cr P C
	sec 262 ...	162, P C
	sec 263 ...	183, P C
	sec 264 ..	162, P C
	All the schedules except schedules B and C	—
17 of 1869	sec 94 ...	183 P C
10 of 1871	The whole Ordinance ...	309 P C
16 of 1871	The whole Ordinance ...	Cr P C

Number and Year.	Extent of Repeal.	Corresponding Sections or Chapter in Codes.
18 of 1871	The whole Ordinance ...	By Cr P C
20 of 1871	The whole Ordinance ...	ch xxiii and 340 and 341 Cr P C
	sec 59 ...	248, 249 and ch xvii P C
23 of 1871	sec 11 ...	ch xxxiii Cr P C
	sec 26 sub-sec 3 ...	158 and 102 P C
1 of 1873	sec 17 ..	473 P C
7 of 1873	The whole Ordinance ...	Cr P C
17 of 1873	sec 41 ..	183 P C
7 of 1874	sec 80 ...	183 P C
3 of 1876	sec 81 so far as it is provided for by 377	
7 of 1876	C P C ...	377 C P C
16 of 1877	sec 52 ...	248 to 253 P C
	sec 53 ...	256 P C
2 of 1878	secs 54 and 55 ..	167 and 165 P C
	sec 60 ...	169 P C
	sec 61 ...	255 P C
	sec 62 ...	452 P C
	sec 66 ...	ch ix P C
	sec 67 ...	344 and 408 P C
	sec 69 ...	456 P C
6 of 1878	sec 12 ...	455 ch xviii P C
11 of 1878	sec 12 para 2 and para 3 ..	179, 183, 172, and 173 P C.
14 of 1878	sec 7* ...	258 and 259 P C

* See Report of Sub-Committee.

RULES and ORDERS repealed by Criminal Procedure Code.

Year.		Extent of Repeal.
1st October, 1833 ...	(P. 55) So much of paragraphs 1, 2, 4, and 6 as are now in force	So far as they concern Criminal Procedure.
1st October, 1833 ...	Sec VII. (p. 82) ...	The whole so far as they concern Criminal Procedure.
1st October, 1833 ...	Forms, sec II (pp. 94—97) ...	The whole.
5th April, 1834 ...	No. 3 (p. 108) ..	The whole.
16th June, 1834 ...	No. 5 sec 2 (p. 110) ..	The whole.
29th June, 1837 ..	No. 8 (p. 115) ...	The whole so far as they concern Criminal Procedure.
28th December, 1838	No. 15 (p 119) ...	The whole.
21st October, 1844 ...	(pp. 142—143) ...	The whole except such as have already been repealed
6th December, 1845 ...	General Rules for the Supreme Court" (p. 156)	The whole.

XIII.—1883.

CASH BALANCES OF THE COLONY.

STATEMENTS

SHOWING

I.—The Cash Balances of the Colony as on the latest date at which they have been ascertained.

II.—The Total Surplus Revenue on 31st December, 1882, including the Balances of all Lapsed Votes to that date.

III.—The Amounts available for appropriation from Unclaimed Balances of the Loan Board on 31st December, 1882.

IV.—The Balance of the Railway Construction Fund on 31st December, 1882.

Ordered by His Excellency the Lieut.-Governor to be Printed.

Colombo:

FRANK LUKER, ACTING GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1883.

CASH BALANCES OF THE COLONY.

I.—STATEMENT showing the Cash Balances of the Colony as on the latest date at which they have been ascertained.

	Rs.	cts.
Cash Balance on 31st August, 1883	1,526,431	40

II.—STATEMENT showing the Total Surplus Revenue on 31st December, 1882, including the Balances of all Lapsed Votes to that date.

[For above Statement *see* Blue Book of 1882, page 73.]

III.—STATEMENT showing the amounts available for appropriation from Unclaimed Balances of the Loan Board on 31st December, 1882.

	Rs.	cts.	Rs.	cts.
Amount of Unclaimed Balances of the Loan Board in deposit on 31st December, 1882 ...	62,043	19		
Unexpended Balances in the hands of the Director of Public Works on 31st December, 1882 ...	4,310	58		
			66,353	77
Deduct—Appropriations by Ordinances Nos. 4 of 1879, 14 of 1880, and 11 of 1881 ...	125,000	0		
Less expenditure to 31st December, 1882 ...	105,118	49		
			19,881	51
Balance available on 31st December, 1882 ...			Rs. 46,472	26

NOTE.—This Balance is not available for appropriation: it is due to minors and others whose claims must be met when preferred.

IV.—STATEMENT showing the Balance of the Railway Construction Fund on 31st December, 1882.

	Rs.	cts.
Balance at credit of this Fund on 31st December, 1881 ...	286,421	51
Unexpended Balances transferred in 1882 from Kalutara Railway Construction Account to Credit of this Fund ...	7,924	41
Balance on 31st December, 1882 ...	Rs. 294,345	92*

* This includes the following sums appropriated during 1883 :—

	Rs.	cts.
New Siding, Loading Bank, and Crane at Moratuwa ...	9,500	0
Construction of a new road from New Fort Station to Chatham-street	16,100	0
Accommodation for passengers at Pettah Station ...	2,990	19
New Fort Station	8,220	0
	Rs. 36,810	19

R. W. D. MOIR,
Acting Auditor-General.

Audit Office,
Colombo, 31st October, 1883.

XIV.—1883.

THE NORTH-CENTRAL PROVINCE.

MINUTE

ADDRESSED TO

HIS EXCELLENCY THE HON. ARTHUR HAMILTON GORDON, G.C.M.G.,

BY

SIR J. DOUGLAS, K.C.M.G.,
LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR.

RELATIVE TO

A RECENT VISIT TO ANURADHAPURA.

Ordered by His Excellency the Governor to be Printed.

Colombo:
FRANK LUKER, ACTING GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1883.

MINUTE.

SIR A. GORDON:

In view of the large expenditure which has been proposed by Government and sanctioned by the Legislature during the past nine years upon the North-Central Province, and of its being, possibly, a question with Your Excellency how far a continuance of that expenditure would be justified by the results, it may be of use that I should lay before you the impressions produced upon me by my recent visit to Anurádhapura and its neighbourhood.

I would premise by observing that my first visit to this neighbourhood was made in July, 1870, in company with the late Mr. Parsons, then Government Agent of the North-Western Province, whose knowledge of the people, their language, and modes of thought, enabled me to form some opinion of their condition.

That condition was truly deplorable; the large irrigation works and village tanks were alike in ruins; the effects of bad food and bad water were everywhere observable, paraṇgi disease was rife;—the place, as Mr. Parsons observed to me, seemed to have been forgotten. I do not wish to be understood as casting any reflection on the individual officers who had administered the district: they could not make bricks without straw—that is, money,—nor were they responsible for the action of the British Government when, in abolishing rájacáriya under the belief that it was slavery in another form, Government neglected to provide any organization for united action on the part of the villagers in maintaining the tanks upon which they were dependent for food and drink.

The remedial measures adopted since the creation of the Province as a separate centre of administration just ten years ago, have been—

(1) Systematic aid given by Government year by year as funds could be afforded in providing masonry spills and sluices for a certain number of village tanks.

(2) The organization of the labour of the village interested under rules framed under the Village Communities Ordinance—for restoring the bund of its tank. The work has been earthwork only, but it is not sufficiently known that the value of the work thus done averages, at the ordinary rates of the Public Works Department, three times the cost of the "works of art" done by Government. In other words, where Government has spent Rs. 1,100 on a sluice and spill, the work of the villagers has been to the value of Rs. 3,300.

(3) Roads "Piṇpara" have been constructed by the people giving communication from the villages to the main roads. In some cases these have been village paths only, in others cart roads, and then Government has given some little assistance in the shape of culverts.

(4) Thirteen miles of the Yóda-ęla have been repaired, and as this ęla skirts a long stretch of ground rising to the eastward the effect has been to intercept the drainage and carry the water into the large tank, Tissawęwa, and thence by a channel into another large tank, Bassuwakkuḷaṃ. Both tanks lie on the outskirts of the town, and Anurádhapura has now a better water supply than any town in Ceylon excepting Kandy.

(5) Though Mr. Dickson was not, in his memorandum on the North-Central Province, which is attached to the Retrenchment Report, able to show any material increase in the land under cultivation in that Province, there has been a great stride in advance since then. I saw 500 acres in one block felled and in process of being asweddumised a mile from Anurádhapura for irrigation from Tissawęwa—the land was purchased from the Crown—and 250 acres of land have been similarly sold and are being opened under Bassuwakkuḷaṃ.

The effect of all this upon the people is most striking; they are fat, well fed, and healthy looking; the hospitals are almost empty, and the disappearance of paraṇgi is very marked.

Not merely is food abundant—the price of paddy in the villages is cents 37½ per bushel—but a large quantity of surplus paddy, estimated by Mr. Fisher at 400,000 bushels, has been sold and sent to Jaffna, Kurunęgala and Puttalam. I have no means of knowing whether Mr. Fisher's estimate is over sanguine, but I know that lines of carts have been met on the North road carrying paddy from the North-Central to the Northern Province, and there is still an unusual amount of paddy unthreshed to be seen stacked in the villages.

The revenue of the Province for the current year will exhibit a large increase over that for the year 1882; and in every respect the aspect of the Province affords the greatest encouragement to go on with the good work begun by Sir William Gregory. The one thing now wanted is the certain supply of water which the restoration of Kalabalawęwa and the Yoda-ęla will afford, for it must be remembered that the village tanks are dependent entirely on rainfall, and are fed by no streams. Balawęwa is fed by one large river—the Beligamua-oya, Kalawęwa by two—the Dambulla and Mirisgoni oyas. It is the water of these three rivers that it is sought to utilise.

J. DOUGLAS.

4th December, 1882.

XV.—1883.

FISH-CURING IN CEYLON.

REPLIES OF CERTAIN GOVERNMENT AGENTS AND THEIR ASSISTANTS

TO QUESTIONS RELATING TO

A SCHEME FOR THE REDUCTION IN THE PRICE OF SALT FOR FISH-CURING PURPOSES.

(In continuation of Sessional Paper V. of 1883.)

Ordered by His Excellency the Governor to be Printed.

Colombo:
FRANK LUKER, ACTING GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1883.

FISH-CURING IN CEYLON.

QUESTIONS to which Government Agents and Assistant Government Agents of the maritime districts were requested to furnish replies.

I.—What is the process followed in your district in the salting, drying, or otherwise preserving of fish?

II.—Could the salting of sea-fish be increased in your District; and if so, how, in your opinion, can this best be effected?

III.—Would it be advisable and practicable to carry out the scheme above-mentioned in your district; and, if so, at what points do you consider that curing establishments could most advantageously be set up?

IV.—Is Government salt used for curing fish in your district?

V.—Is salt earth or sea-water used for this purpose?

VI.—Has the practice of salting fish increased or decreased of late in your district, and to what cause may be ascribed any such increase or decrease?

VII.—Are there any headmen of the Fisher caste? Is the office hereditary, or how is it obtained; and what are the duties and emoluments of the same?

VIII.—Does anyone, either Government or private individual, claim rights in respect of the sea fisheries?

IX.—Names of places at which fishing is carried on in your district, and number of men and boats employed in the pursuit; and whether there is reason to believe that in any case the enterprize is capable of further development?

X.—Kind of fish caught; and are the fisheries injured by the capture of immature and gravid fish?

XI.—How are the fishermen supplied with boats, nets, &c.?

XII.—How do the fishermen dispose of the fish caught?

XIII.—Has the number of sea-fishermen increased or decreased, or remained stationary, within your knowledge?

XIV.—Has the number of boats employed in the sea-fishing increased, decreased, or remained stationary, within your knowledge; and has the size of boats remained the same?

REPLIES.

No. 1.

From the GOVERNMENT AGENT, Southern Province, to the Hon. the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

Government Agent's Office,
Galle, 19th October, 1883.

No. 534.

SIR,—I HAVE the honor to annex replies to the questions put in your letter No. 349 of the 4th July last. The replies of my Assistant at Mátara are also herewith forwarded.

2. I have not had any reply from the Assistant Agent, Hambantota, who is best able to state what stock of salt could be made available for curing purposes. I believe that, unless a larger quantity than is at present manufactured can be made at Hanbantota, there will be no salt to spare for fish-curing.

3. Fish are never destroyed for want of salt, but are sometimes sold, when caught in large quantities, at much less than the usual price. The salt fish cured locally is very inferior to, and does not keep as well as, the imported fish. This is no doubt due in some measure to the insufficient quantity of salt used.

I have, &c.,
ALLANSON BAILEY,
Acting Government Agent.

P.S.—The replies of the Assistant Government Agent, Hambantota, have now been received; a copy is annexed.

Enclosure No. 1.

From the Government Agent, Galle.

1. Fish is preserved by (1) pickling with salt or salt water and other ingredients; and (2) drying with salt.

2. The salting of sea-fish could be increased by reducing the price of salt.

3. The scheme is considered by the Mudaliyárs to be advisable and practicable. The following places are suggested as suitable for curing establishments:—Kotugoda and Gintota, at limits of Municipality; Hatuwapiyádigama and Katukurunda, in Talpé-pattu; Pitárambé, Kępunkada, Ahungalla, and Galmangoda in Walalláwiti-kóralé.

4, 5, Yes.

6. The practice of salting fish is said to have increased except in the gravets. The causes assigned are the profitable character of the occupation, excess of supply over demand of fresh fish, &c.

7. There are fisher headmen; the offices are not now hereditary. The emoluments ceased with the abolition of the fish-tax. The duties of the headmen are to regulate fisheries, settle disputes, to prevent smuggling, &c.

8. No rights are claimed in respect of sea-fisheries.

9. Galle harbour, Kadawata and Udawata, Unawatuna, Koggala, Habaradúwa, Kataluwa, Goyyápána, and Malalagama in Talpé Pattu.

In Wellaboda pattu má-del fishing is carried on at Pitawella, Bussa, Ratgama, Dodandúwa, Patuwata, Teranagara, Pannangoda, Hikkaduwa, Totagamuwa, Perelia, Telwatta, Kahawé, Godagama, Mádampé, Urawatta, Ambalangoda, Balapitiya. Fishing canoes go out from Pitawella, Dodandúwa, Hikkaduwa, Sínigama, Telwatta, Akurala, Mádampé, Ambalangoda, Randombé, Balapitiya.

In Walalláwiti-kóralé fishing is carried on at Módarawella, Pitarambé, Robolgéwatta Aturuwella, Yalagama, Kepunkada, Bogunkada, Maha Pelena, Duwéwella, Nápáwella, Galbokka, Ahungalla, Mankadawella, Harastotupala, Galmangoda.

10. The following is a list of the kinds of fish caught:—(1, large kinds) seer, paraw, balayo, talapattu, kelawallu, móru, kopparaw, kalamiyo, (2, smaller kinds) lággo, hál-messo, kárallo, kalawenno, koramburuwo, (3, rock fish) munetiyo, tambuwo, bedau, teliyo, hurullo, chelamburuwo, morando, koralo, buggu, bollo, marando, penno, peneti, sáwálayo, katuwallo, hendello, dello, imburo, demesso, nesso, kalukichcho, lottu, gankiralo, buwako, leello, godayo, oleyo, galiwekku, maduwo, etawallo, tomassu, galbollo, kosso, tawayo, boraluwo, gerun, kepukindo, taluadeyo, mukkaru, romadu, mulelu, wannanallu, habaralu, inguro, habalawun, wekku, ratdallu, múdello, kakulamesso, etanakullo, ginneti, potukirallu, kattáwo, kumbaláwo.

The fisheries are said to be injured by the capture of immature and gravid fish; but very little seems to be known about the spawning of fish.

11. Boats, nets, &c., are sometimes made locally, and sometimes brought from other districts.

12. The fish caught are sold, generally by auction, on the sea-shore.

13, 14. The number of fishermen and the number of boats seem (taking all the districts together) to have increased. The boats are said to be in some places larger and better built than they used to be.

ALLANSON BAILEY,
Acting Government Agent.

Enclosure No. 2.

From the Assistant Government Agent, Mátara.

1. The fish is sliced, salted, and then enclosed in narrow-mouthed jars, some goraka (garcinia gambogia) being added; or it is sliced, salted and laid in the sun.

2. If the price of salt is decreased and facilities given such as indicated in the scheme proposed by Government, I am of opinion that the salting of sea-fish would be increased: the concentration of the operations connected with the industry would in itself conduce to this.

3. It would, I think, be both advisable and practicable; but I am not prepared to say that some loss to Government would not be involved. The places I would suggest as sites for curing establishments are Weligama, Mátara, and Gandura.

4. Yes.

5. No.

6. Those whom I have consulted are of opinion that the practice has increased, and attribute this to the increase in the number of persons engaged in the occupation of catching sea-fish, to the improvement of the village paths making access to the interior villages easier to traders, and (notably in the case of Weligama) to the withdrawal of the mail steamers from Galle, which used to take large quantities of the fresh fish caught.

7. Yes; there is a fisher headman called Patabendi-arachchi at every fishing station of importance. He regulates the fishing generally, settles disputes, &c. At one time prior to the abolition of the fish-tax these headmen were paid, but now the emoluments of the office are confined to some small fees for registering nets under the Gansabháwa rules. The office is not hereditary, but is practically confined to certain families; it is conferred by the Government Agent.

8. No; but the fisheries are to some extent regulated by Gansabháwa rules.

9. Midigama, Koppratota, Weligama, Pelanána, and Mirissa in the Weligam-kóralé, Mátara, Dondra, Gandura, Kotugoda, and Nilwella in the Wellaboda-pattu.

		No. of Men employed.		No. of Boats employed.
Weligam Kóralé	...	1,555	...	528
Mátara	...	151	...	51
Wellaboda Pattu	...	1,675	...	456

The enterprize would certainly be further developed eventually by enforcing more stringent rules as to the capture of fish in certain localities, the use of particular nets, &c., but much temporary dissatisfaction would be occasioned. Any step in this direction, though approved by

the majority, is always attended by much grumbling and tacit resistance by some of those who are affected by it.

10.—*(a)* Seer (tóra), paraw, kelawalla, bolaya, shark, hál-messo, alawala, hurulla, bollo, lággo, koramburuwo, &c., &c. The four last-named are the more important of the smaller species of fish taken with nets; the larger kinds are usually taken in with hook and line. As to the capture of immature fish, those who are qualified to give an opinion all agree that this prevails to too great an extent. I am not quite sure with regard to gravid fish; the time of spawning of most of the species of sea-fish is not accurately known, though they are more frequently caught with roe in the early part of the year than at other times: the roe of the seer fish is considered a delicacy.

11. Boats and nets are of local manufacture, and are generally owned by a number of shareholders; in case of some of the larger nets used, both núl-del and má-del (nets with small and large meshes, respectively), the number of shareholders who are interested in a single net is sometimes very large indeed.

12. The fish are usually sold by auction wholesale on the beach, and the purchasers then retail them in various ways. At Weligama, canoes from Galle frequently come to the spot where the boats engaged in fishing are anchored, and going from boat to boat make their bargain for a cargo of fish, with which they return to Galle.

13, 14. The number of men, boats, and nets employed has increased, and is still increasing; the size of the boats also has increased, those made now being considerably larger than those that were formerly in use; the nets, also, are much larger than formerly. At one time, men of the karáwa (fisher) caste alone took part in this industry, but now Moormen, chandoes, chaliyás (cinnamon peelers), oliyás, and others make a living by it, or combine it with other pursuits.

The first part of the query does not apply to this district.

Fish are occasionally destroyed when unusually large captures have been made, but this is exceptional. From insufficient salting, due probably to the high price of salt, considerable quantities become putrid, and are often sold and consumed when in this state. I am inclined to think that this would be in a great measure obviated by the introduction of the proposed scheme.

N.B.—This district being very populous, fresh fish, even in large quantities, find a ready market, and it would only be occasionally that any very great amount would be available for salting.

C. E. D. PENNYCUICK,
Assistant Government Agent.

Enclosure No. 3.

From the Assistant Government Agent, Hambantota.

1. The process of salting is as follows:—To slice the fish and rub in salt, adding some goraka, and then to pack the slices in vessels protected, as far as possible, from admission of air.

For drying:—To slice the fish, wash the slices with sea water, sprinkle them with powdered salt, and expose to the sun to dry.

2. The salting of sea-fish can undoubtedly be increased, but it must be done by degrees, and the best mode of effecting the purpose is—

(a) To commence with a small establishment at Hambantota;

(b) To give notice thereof through the proper officers to the fishermen around the island;

(c) To make it known that the "Serendib" will be required, if desired, to convey the fish when cured to consignees at reasonable rates (otherwise there may be a difficulty at certain seasons of the year in disposing of the fish).

3. It would be both advisable and practicable to try the experiment in this district, and, if successful, at Hambantota; it might be further extended by an establishment at Turtle Island.

4. It is obtained from retailers.

5. No.

6. I have no means of judging. The Mudaliyár of East Giruwa Pattu says the practice has decreased owing to the smaller demand from Badulla [this may be true]; he of the West says it has increased in this Pattu, and attributes the fact to increase of population; the Mágam-pattu Mudaliyár says that of recent years fishers from other districts have frequented his fishing grounds from October to May, the only season when fishing is practicable.

7. There are headmen of the fisher caste; the offices are not hereditary. There are no emoluments since the fish-tax was abolished, and their duties are confined to general supervision of wrecks, and the settlement of fishery disputes.

8. The Crown never claimed more than a proportion of the fish caught, but gave up the tax some years ago. The right to fish within headlands is governed by prescription. There was a Proclamation by Government on the subject some ten years or more ago, which, if my memory serves me correctly, was held by the courts to have been *ultra vires*.

	Boats.	Men.		Boats.	Men.
9.—Welipalanwila ...	8 ...	40	Udapottana Pelinawewa Palanangala Amaduwa Kirindo Uraniya Hambantota Godawaya	... 32 ...	102
Kalametia ...	4 ...	8			
Mediatta Suriagahawala Unakuruwa Talgahawela Tangalla Rekewa	... 231 ...	566			

10. The kinds of fishes are:—alagoḍuwo, anjalavo, beḍiri, balayo, beden, boraluwo, bollo, dallu, ḍello, ṭawallo, galbollu, galkosso, goli, karavalan, kaṭuwallo, kaṭṭáwo, kaṭillo, lággo, lavayo, móru, nellu, parawu, pokirisso, pulunno, parah, rawalayo, tambuwo, teliyo, tóru, tonḍayo, uḍasso, wauwali and wauwo.

The Mudaliyárs state that there is wanton destruction of immature fish; but the fishing is on so small a scale that I don't think much harm can have been done yet, and it would take time to suggest what regulations should be made on this head, if any. It is a question, I think, whether such regulations have done good anywhere.—(*Vide* Ordinance No. 19 of 1866.)

11. The fishers supply the boats and nets, and work for shares.

12. They sell what fresh fish they can at once, and salt the remainder.

13. The Mudaliyárs report an increase except in Giruwa Pattu East.

14. According to the Mudaliyárs,—decreased in the East Giruwa Pattu, increased in number in the West Giruwa Pattu, and increased both in number and dimensions in the Mágam Pattu.

The natural production of salt has hitherto, with rare exceptions, been sufficient to meet the demand, but there is no reason, so far as I can judge, why it should not be indefinitely increased. It is only a question of cost.

I will only add that I approve the proposed scheme only from the point of view that it will benefit this district. The cost and other obvious difficulties connected with the transport and safe custody of salt in places remote from Hambantoṭa would, I think, forbid a fish-curing establishment, say anywhere in the Mátara District. But it must not be lost sight of that if the experiment meets with any great degree of success, the fish-salting trade in other parts of the Island would be sensibly affected, and that as a matter of general policy it would be better—a sufficiently increased production being assured—to lower the price of salt to all comers. This would much more materially increase the revenue. But it is useless to adopt any measures to increase the consumption of salt until, as Mr. Williams points out in a memorandum which I forward for your further information, an increased production is assured. We must first catch our salt, and I am so certain that the best means of doing this is to assist the natural formation, that I will at once put a few prisoners to the work of deepening the Maha léwáya, as Mr. Williams suggests, in anticipation of authority to attack it on a larger scale; my idea is to begin with half an acre and make a salt pan such as are made at Puttalam. If the experiment is successful, other pans can be made, and the mud and earth excavated will form the dams, and will be more than sufficient for this purpose; the remainder can be deposited on the banks. The dams should be wide enough to run Decauville waggons on to a depôt in the centre of the léwáya, where the salt as collected would be under cover until dry, when it would be carried in larger waggons on a broad guage straight into the stores. This would be a rational mode of doing business, and cheaper than the present mode of collecting salt in thimble fulls and wading a distance through mud and slush to deposit it in heaps around the margin until dragged in by hand carts which hold only 9 cwts. and take six men (three trips a day), so that each man conveys per day only about 4½ cwts. a distance of between two and three miles. It is pure waste of labour.

I intend shortly inspecting all the léwáyas and fishing stations to the north of this, and will report further on the subject should anything worthy of notice occur to me.

I am, &c.,
W. J. S. BOAKE,
Assistant Government Agent.

N.B.—Copy of a memorandum by Mr. Williams is appended for your further information.

Sub-Enclosure in Enclosure No. 3.

Memorandum referred to.

THESE papers have been sent to me by Mr. Byrde, who does not think that his experience of the district justifies him in expressing a confident opinion on the subject of fish-curing. I cannot deal with the question fully at a distance, but there are some points which require notice.

If any fish-curing establishment is to succeed it must be situated in the Mágam Pattuwa. The salting must be done in the immediate vicinity of the place of the formation of the salt, the cost of transport to the neighbourhood of the largest market in the district—to a place, for instance, near Tangalla and Beliyatta—added to the cost of establishment would prohibit that sale at a low price which is the essence of the scheme. The question to be considered is, whether fishermen could be attracted by the inducement of low-priced salt. The headmen of the district report a slight increase in the practice of fish curing—(for the East Giruwa Pattu, where there are only twelve boats, may be disregarded)—a fact which would justify the belief that even under the present conditions the industry is a paying one. The further inference therefore may be drawn that a decrease in the price of salt would attract an increased number of fishermen.

But the whole question of these proposed establishments is decided for the present, so far as the Hambantota District is concerned, by the fact that there is no salt available for sale at a reduced price, or what is practically the same thing, the demand for salt at the ordinary price is barely met by the supply. For the last seven years the stock in hand has never reached the amount laid down by Government regulations, and there is no prospect of any exceptional formation this year. The truth is that a very large crop is required to bring the supply up to the average demand. The sales for the last ten years have averaged cwts. 64,396, and the stock in hand just now, at the beginning of the shipping season, is cwts. 39,438, and on the léwáyas cwts. 68,870.

3. The proposed scheme naturally suggests the desirability of improving the productive powers of the léwáyas, and especially of those situated in the immediate neighbourhood of Hambantota, viz., Maha léwáya, the Karagan-aar léwáya, and the two Koholankala léwáyas. Suggestions for their improvement have been frequently made by various officers in charge of the district, and the scheme which seems to me to promise most at the least expense, and at all events to afford a good test as to the possibility of improvement, is to employ a large force of prisoners in clearing out the Maha léwáya, which is within a mile of the jail, to a uniform depth of about two feet at and near the edges. The experiment might be tried on a certain acreage at a part of the lagoon nearest the town, and where it has been most affected by drift sand. There can be no question about the economy of promoting the formation of salt at the point nearest to Hambantota, and a few months' work by fifty or sixty men would, I think, afford reasonable data for the consideration of the advisability of more extensive works, and perhaps of plant in the way of waggons or trucks and platforms to facilitate the gathering of salt.

I cannot doubt that fish-curing enclosures would prove beneficial to the country, and any works which, by increasing production and cheapening the cost of harvesting the salt crop, would permit their establishment—a step which would be virtually the creation of a new industry, so trifling is the present trade—must I think commend themselves to the most favourable consideration of the Government.

Colombo, 10th October, 1883. G. S. WILLIAMS.

No. 2.

From the Government Agent, Jaffna.

1. The process of curing, salting, and drying fish, as practised on the coasts of this Province is, so far as I have been able to judge from what has fallen under my observation, of the most primitive description.

The process seems to consist chiefly in sun-drying the fish. As soon as possible after a haul has been made, the fish are gutted, split or crimped, and salted with as small a quantity of salt as will suffice to prevent putrifaction, and they are then exposed to the sun in lines on the hot sand till well dried.

Small fish such as nettali (which I believe to be fry, and which are caught in large quantities at certain seasons), what are called sardines, and other small fish are merely exposed to the sun and dried, the sand on which they are exposed affording apparently a small amount of salt sufficient to preserve them.

At times a superior description of salt fish, without the slightest taint in it, can be obtained from the Siṇhalese fishermen who resort to Iranatívu, between Jaffna and Mannár. It is only small quantities, however, that are so carefully prepared, the usual practice being, as I have pointed out, to expose the fish to dry in the sun, with as small a quantity of salt as will prevent its getting putrid. I believe, however, that the class of people for whom the fish is prepared, viz., the villagers of the interior and coffee estate coolies, prefer it with a certain amount of taint and without much salt in it.

2. I have no doubt the salting of fish could be very much increased if a remunerative market were opened up, and a larger demand for Ceylon-cured fish were to arise.

At present there is very little, if any, deep-sea fishing; fishing being carried on chiefly with nets from the shore, and with hook and line. The Siṇhalese fishermen use large drift nets, but they do not go far from land, and the use of such nets is forbidden south of Mannár Island, over the Pearl banks, by Ordinance No. 18 of 1843.

I have no doubt that if the demands would repay the outlay of capital and afford a fair return on it, the supply of fish could be very much increased by the employment of trawlers and other means for fishing in deeper water. As it is, however, I believe that the supply meets the demands in reference to the means of the people and the existing modes of transport, which do not admit of fish being taken fresh to any great distance from the coast, especially in the absence of ice.

3. However desirable it may be to afford facilities for the purchase of salt for fish-curing, I do not consider it would be advisable to adopt such a scheme as proposed, as it would not be practicable to carry it out without heavy loss to the revenue or the incurring of heavy expenditure in protecting the revenue, and affording the fishermen all along the coast the same advantages by establishing a large number of salting stations—an expenditure, in fact, that would far exceed the value of the salt that would be sold at the price at which it is proposed to sell it, viz., a little above the cost price to Government.

4. Yes. The average sale during the last ten years is cwts. 3,461.—(See statement annexed.)

5. Yes, I believe so to some extent when practicable in reference to the state of the weather and the ability to dry the fish.

6. It has remained stationary, I believe, for several years past.

7. No special headmen for the caste. The fisher headmen, of whom there are ten, have particular duties, as follows, to perform. They are paid fixed salaries. They were formerly employed in the pearl fishery, but their services on the pearl banks were discontinued in 1862 when the present system of coxswains was brought in on the recommendation of Mr. Vane.

(*a*) To examine, as to their sea-worthiness, vessels tendered for the conveyance of Government stores, &c.

(*b*) To assist in the arrangement for freight for public purposes.

(*c*) To attend to the arrangement as to the chank fishery.

(*d*) To aid in the prevention of smuggling.

(*e*) To attend to the arrangement of the ferries, which in this province are all across wide inlets of the sea ; to prevent the abuses at the ferries.
(*f*) To attend to the preservation of marks in channels.
(*g*) To attend to the registry of boats.
(*h*) To attend to the prevention and settlement, as far as may be, of disputes amongst fishermen as to the rights of fishing, which are various and complicated.
(*i*) To prevent fraudulent concealment of drift.
(*j*) On the eastern coast, in effecting the shipments of salt for export.
(*k*) To prevent obstructions to the channels in the shallow waters of this province.
(*l*) To aid in maintaining quarantine arrangements, which there is such frequent occasion to adopt.
(*m*) To execute the processes of courts in respect to vessels, and generally to afford the means of communicating readily with the fishermen, seafaring people, and the owners of vessels.

The fishing and curing of fish for export from the province are carried on along all the coasts of the province : from Point Pedro to Kokkulai on the Mullaittívu side, and in Jaffna and other parts of the Peninsula near the lake (as it is called), and in the northern coasts of Mannár Island during the south-west monsoon ; during the north-east monsoon from Jaffna southwards along the coasts of the mainland to Kuthiramalai, on the coast of Mannár Island, at Iranatívu, and at the Island of Theday in Adam's Bridge. During the south-west monsoon large numbers of Siṇhalese fishermen from Negombo and fishermen from Pésálai and other places in the Mannár District resort to the coasts of the Mullaittívu District. The Siṇhalese fish on their own account and purchase fish for curing from the resident fishermen. In the north-east monsoon the Siṇhalese fishermen resort to all parts of the Mannár District, to Iranatívu and Theday.

To supply these fishermen and the Jaffna fishermen with salt in the scheme proposed, at least ten salting enclosures, I believe, would have to be established, each with a storekeeper and at least four watchers. Such enclosures with their establishments could not be kept up under a cost of from Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 30,000 per annum exclusive of the first cost. Such enclosures should not be more than twenty miles apart at the most.

Fish in this country soon gets putrid, and must be gutted, salted, and laid out to dry immediately it is brought in from the nets. The fishermen have establishments all along the coasts, and if they are to take advantage of the proposed scheme there must be a sufficient number of enclosures to admit of their getting the fish salted without delay.

The average quantity of salt now sold specially to fishers during the last 10 years has amounted to cwts. 3,461. The price at which it was sold is Rs. 2·36 per cwt., equal to Rs. 8,169. To sell salt at even 50 cents the cwt. for fishermen, at least twenty times this quantity would have to be sold to cover cost of salt and cost of enclosures. The quantity which would be sold would not, I believe, in any case, with every facility being afforded to the fishermen, exceed four times the present quantity.

8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 & 14. In reply to these questions I beg to ask that reference may be made to the very full and able report and its annexures sent in in 1868 by the Commission—consisting of Messrs. Russell, Simpson and the Maniagar of Vadamarádchi—appointed to enquire into and report on the Sea Fisheries of the Northern Province, and that that report may be taken in connection with this.

That report entered fully into all matters connected with the fisheries of the Northern Province. I cannot add anything to it, and the existing circumstances as regards the sea fisheries and the fishing population are very much the same now as they were in 1868.

I annex to this a rough sketch* of the province, showing the fishing grounds ; also a statement showing the quantity of salt fish exported coastwise and beyond sea during the last 10 years as nearly as it can be ascertained. There is besides this a large quantity taken inland by carts and tavalams.

I have marked on the map the places where, in my opinion, it would be necessary to establish salting enclosures. At least twenty would be required—ten during each monsoon.

I enclose original reports from the Assistant Agents of Mannár and Mullaittívu.

All the salt required, up to 100,000 cwts. a year, might be very easily supplied from the léwáyas and from the pans of the Northern Province.

I have known of fish getting putrid owing to rainy weather setting in and preventing the drying process. Salt has always been available at the stores, and the fishermen always keep a supply on hand. I never heard of fish having been destroyed for want of salt.

W. C. TWYNAM,
Government Agent.

Jaffna, 1st October, 1883.

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* Not printed.

A.

STATEMENT showing the Quantity and Value of Salt Fish exported from the Northern Province during the last ten years.

Years.	Beyond Sea.				Coastwise.				Total Quantity.			Total Value.	
	Quantity.		Value.		Quantity.			Value.					
	cwt.	qr.	Rs.	cts.		cwt.	qr.	Rs.	cts.		cwt.	qr.	Rs.	cts.
1873 ...	2,599	2	5,915	25	Bags 2,215	18,203	0	269,242	0	Bags 2,215	20,802	2	275,157	25
1874 ...	3,432	1	9,730	50	—	12,208	2	135,659	0	—	15,640	3	145,389	50
1875 ...	2,572	2	6,095	75	Baskets 330	14,846	0	196,127	0	Baskets 330	17,418	2	202,222	75
1876 ...	3,771	1	13,902	25	Bdls. 10,227	6,755	2	234,643	50	Bdls. 10,227	10,526	3	248,545	75
1877 ...	4,696	1	12,928	25	„ 19	20,385	3	379,597	0	„ 19	25,082	0	392,525	25
1878 ...	3,242	2	15,489	50	Bales 5,646	14,974	1	239,040	0	Bales 5,646	18,216	3	254,529	50
1879 ...	3,389	1	9,574	75	Bdls. 49	33,834	0	307,890	0	Bdls. 49	37,223	1	317,464	75
1880 ...	1,625	3	4,659	50	„ 11	25,672	2	246,165	0	„ 11	27,298	1	250,824	50
1881 ...	3,610	1	8,970	25	„ 189	27,578	2	255,392	0	„ 189	31,188	3	264,362	25
1882 ...	1,425	3	12,013	25	Parcels 5	25,382	1	213,018	50	Parcels 5	26,808	0	225,031	50

B.

STATEMENT showing the Quantity of Salt sold for consumption in the Northern Province and to the Fishers for a period of 10 years from 1873 to 1882.

Years.	Jaffna.		Mannár.		Mullaittívu.		Total for the Province.					
	For consumption.	To Fishers.	For consumption.	To Fishers.	For consumption.	To Fishers.	For consumption.	Value.		To Fishers.	Value.	
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	Rs.	cts.	cwt.	Rs.	cts.
1873 ...	21,765	—	3,560	1,984	372	1,631	25,697	61,216	20	3,615	8,531	40
1874 ...	23,012	—	3,424	956	334	1,693	26,770	58,599	78	2,649	6,251	64
1875 ...	23,230	—	3,259	1,068	327	2,108	26,816	58,762	63	3,176	7,495	36
1876 ...	22,601	—	3,620	1,020	368	2,570	26,589	58,115	52	3,590	8,472	40
1877 ...	19,167	—	3,979	835	168	1,993	23,314	50,671	90	2,828	6,674	8
1878 ...	22,000	—	4,495	1,148	192	2,450	26,687	58,456	55	3,598	8,491	28
1879 ...	22,080	—	4,098	596	276	3,842	26,454	57,948	73	4,438	10,473	68
1880 ...	23,141	—	4,296	375	222	3,533	27,659	60,175	75	3,908	9,222	88
1881 ...	23,521	—	3,998	807	237	2,785	27,756	60,596	27	3,592	8,477	12
1882 ...	25,800	—	5,632	804	369	2,414	29,801	58,773	60	3,218	7,594	48
Total	226,317	—	38,361	9,593	2,865	25,019						
						10) Total ...	267,543	583,316	93	34,612	81,684	32
						Average ...	26,754	58,331	0	3,461	8,168	0

Enclosure No. 1 in No. 2.

From the Assistant Government Agent, Mullaittívu.

No. 236.

Mullaittívu Kachcheri,
$\frac{21}{27}$th August, 1883.

SIR,—IN reply to your letter No. 185 of the 11th July last, I have the honor to report that on receipt of the same I instructed the District Mudaliyár of Mullaittívu to obtain for me the required particulars from the subordinate headmen along the coast who act as Adappan, and to have the information ready for me on my arrival here on the 6th instant.

On my arrival I found, as usual, that nothing had been done by him, and I therefore summoned the Negombo and Pésáláí fishermen, now fishing along the coast, to meet me to confer on the subject on the 10th instant.

On the day named some twenty Negombo fishermen and one Pésáláí man appeared before me.

I explained the proposed scheme to them, and asked them what they thought of it. They demurred to commit themselves at first to stating their opinions, saying that they were only agents in the fishing enterprize, being employed under leading fishermen in Negombo who supply the capital for the fishing trade here. I informed them, however, that the Government is merely collecting information on the subject at present, and they then expressed their opinions more freely.

They approve, of course, of the proposed reduction in the price of salt, but think that, on the whole, so much time would be wasted in conforming to the regulations for the Government "kottu" scheme that they would lose instead of gaining by the new scheme. I remarked that the scheme was found satisfactory both to the Government and the fishermen in the Madras Presidency, and they replied that drag nets are not used in India, and that the difficulty here would arise from the necessity of curing immediately a large haul of fish, for which purpose the Government kottu scheme, by causing delay, would be unsuitable.

At present they carry their own salt with them from one place to another along the coast, following the shoals of fish, and whenever a haul is effected they draw the net to shore and then and there salt the fish, many fish being lost even under the present arrangement owing to unavoidable delay between capture and salting ; and they say that the Government kottu scheme would only entail further delay, and that on the whole they think they are better off as they are at present.

I subjoin the substance of their replies, and my own remarks *seriatim* to the fourteen questions put in the Colonial Secretary's Circular.

I annex also copy of remarks made by the Salt Storekeeper, at my request, on the subject generally, and on the following points in particular :—

(*a*) Sale of salt at Mullaittívu for the last ten years (statement C.)
(*b*) Probable cost for erecting ten kottus along the seashore (statement D.)
(*c*) Probable annual cost for maintaining ten such establishments (statement E.)
(*d*) Average expenditure incurred at present on account of the natural formation of salt at Mullaittívu (statement F.)
(*e*) Average quantity of salt that may be collected at Mullaittívu, and the expenditure that will have to be incurred on account of the same per year (statement G.)

From the statements contained in the last paragraph, it will be seen that even if double the present quantity of salt were sold at 66 cents. per cwt—which is extremely doubtful—the decreased salt revenue would only amount to about one-fourth of the cost of the new scheme for the first year ; and on the whole, I doubt very much whether it would be at all advisable to adopt the scheme here ; in fact, the scheme would be worked here at a loss unless more than eight times the present quantity of salt were issued from the store for fish salting.

I have, &c.,
SAM. HAUGHTON,
Assistant Government Agent.

Sub-Enclosure No. 1 in Enclosure No. 1 in No. 2.

Remarks referred to.

1. The fish are on capture gutted and cut into two at the belly so as to form two halves joined at the back, then washed in sea water, and then salted : all these operations must be completed within three hours—the sooner the better. Some fish must be salted within one hour, others within two hours, three hours being the outside limit in time, the fish being useless for salting purposes if not salted within that time. The salt is inserted into slits or "crimps" in the flesh of the fish : they are then heaped up in layers for one or two days and covered with cadjans ; they are then washed in sea water again, then dried in the sun for four or five days on both sides, being heaped up every night during this process under cadjans. Finally, when well dried by this daily operation, the fish is stored up in huts so as to be secure from the effects of the air, the sun or rain, and then packed up into bundles for the market. Fish fry are simply dried in the sun.

From ten to twenty dhoney loads of fish are salted here in a year, each dhoney carrying from 500 to 800 bales of salt fish, and each bale weighing about a hundredweight. The fishermen no doubt try to catch as many fish as they can, but do not, I imagine, use any extra exertions after they have caught a sufficient quantity to cover expenses and leave them a fair profit. Much depends, of course, on the seasons and the weather. A violent burst of the south-west monsoon with much electricity in the air and heavy dew are favourable for fishing.

The fishermen who work here receive advances of money from wealthy fishermen in Negombo, who entrust the men here, generally their relatives, with the management of the fishing and salting, the salt fish being sent to the principal for sale in Colombo, one-third of the profits going to the principal who advances the money and two-thirds to the fishermen ; any loss in the trade, which is rare, being shared between the "Muthaláli" and fishermen in the same proportion as the profit. It would thus appear to be a profitable investment, the capital invested each year yielding about 150 per cent. interest, the principal, or "Muthaláli," recovering his capital and about 50 per cent. interest thereon. It is only rarely that there is any loss in the trade.

2. The best way to increase the salting in this district would be, I imagine, to induce the money advancers in Negombo to increase their advances, as the number of men and boats employed varies in proportion to the amount of money advanced ; the weight of fish to be salted varies with the number of men and boats employed, as well as with the nature of the south-west monsoon during the particular year. The fishing and salting is carried on here of course only between April and October. The chief advancers of the money for the trade here are :—(1) Kurukula Suriya Mankoda Kankany Istaki Juan ; (2) Deago Aleso Vas ; (3) Istaki Anthoni Vas ; and (4) Istaki Domingo Fernando,—all of Negombo "Duwa"; as well as others.

3. The scheme would be practicable in this district, but I would not advise its adoption unless the Negombo and Pésáli money advancers are prepared to advance a very much larger sum of money than at present in the local trade.

There is, I think, a good deal of weight to be attached to the objection made by the fishermen as to the waste of time which would be involved by the Government kottu scheme. They say that far more fish would be lost than at present owing to the inability to salt a large number within a short prescribed time. This difficulty might be met by the erection of a number of kottus along the seashore, but this again would add enormously to the expense of the working of

the scheme. A separate staff, including a Government storekeeper, who would have to give security and account weekly for the salt issued to him, would be required at each kottu.

The best places for kottus, if the scheme were adopted here, would be :—Selavattai, Arichal, Vellammullivaikal, Karianmullivaikal, Chalai, Chundikulam, and Kokulai. One or two central kottus would be useless if the fishermen's objections as to waste of time are, as I believe them to be, really sound. On the whole, I would not recommend the adoption of the scheme here unless the money advancers in Negombo and Pésáláí are prepared to invest ten times the present capital in the local trade. It must be remembered that only twenty-five per cent. of the money invested by them goes to the purchase of Government salt for fish-curing.

4. Government salt is the only salt used in this district for fish-salting : it is of two sorts,—that issued on sale from the Government store, and that stolen from the natural formations. Women and boys chiefly steal the salt in small quantities here and there. They steal both the crystalised salt and salt-earth, and sell it to the fishermen : it is almost impossible to put a stop to this sort of pilfering.

5. The fishermen say that salt-earth is not used for the purpose of curing as it spoils the appearance of the fish. This is, of course, only a delicate denial of the criminality of acting as receivers of stolen salt-earth. Much salt-earth is undoubtedly stolen, and it is almost all sold to the fishermen for curing.

6. It has increased in this district, more men and boats being now employed than formerly.

7. There are no regular fisher headmen here. There is one Adappan, but his duties are almost exclusively confined to looking after drift timber.

8. No fishing rights, as between different races, are claimed ; but certain rules are observed among the different sets of men fishing one ground in common, such as the alternate fishing of different sets of fishermen day about in one "padhu," &c.

9. At the seven places named in my reply to question No. 3, and also at Chemalai and Alampil. This year there are about 85 boats and 670 men, as follows, viz., Negombo 60 boats and 500 men, Pésáláí 25 boats and 150 men.

10. All sorts and sizes of fish—including seer fish—are caught and salted here. No damage is done by the capture of fry or gravid fish. The supply is so inexhaustible that the amount of fish taken from the sea by the fishermen must be inappreciable.

11. They use their own boats, as well as others which they hire. They only use their own nets.

12. All the salt fish goes to Colombo for sale by the principal, as previously stated.

13. There is an increase among the Sinhalese and Pésáláí fishermen, but a decrease among the native fishermen, who are a drunken and a bankrupt lot.

14. The number of boats has increased, but the size of the boats has remained the same. The majority are "vallams," "kullas" or outriggers being used only at Kokulai and Chemalai.

II.—With regard to this question, the average quantity of natural salt which might be made available for the salting in this district would be about 2,000 cwts. per annum, the cost of watching, collecting, and removing which would amount to about Rs. 1,000.

III.—One-third of the fish now caught have to be destroyed for want of salt at the required time, and the fishermen say that the Government kottu system would necessitate a still greater loss, as stated in para. 1., sec. 3.

SAMUEL HAUGHTON,
Assistant Government Agent.

Sub-enclosure No. 2 in Enclosure No. 1 in No. 2.

Remarks submitted by Mr. S. Sabaratnam, Storekeeper.

SIR,—I BEG to submit my remarks on the proposed scheme for selling salt to the fishers, as requested by you.

The two important points mentioned in the proposal are (*a*) that the fishers should cure their fish within certain enclosures where salt will be issued to them, and (*b*) that the price of the salt will be reduced to 66 cents. The aim of the scheme in reducing the price is that the enterprise may thus be encouraged. It would certainly be an encouragement if not for the restriction which more than outweighs the advantage offered. Fishers care more for their other expenses than for the price of salt. A fisher who sets out with a thousand rupees will have to spend but a fourth part of his capital in purchasing salt, while the three-fourths will be spent in other expenses. He would therefore be more particular as to his other expenses than the value of salt. If at all he is required to take the fish he catches at different places into an enclosure, he will find that the greater portion of his expenditure is doubly increased, while only a smaller portion is reduced to the same extent. He would therefore be no gainer by the reduction, but, on the other hand, will have a good deal added to his expense. It is to overcome a similar inconvenience that fishers who carry on the enterprize on a large scale, cure the fish at the different spots where they are caught, not even caring for the trouble and expense they incur in establishing quarters at such places.

It would thus appear that this scheme, if enforced, would not only add much to the fishers' labour and trouble, but will encroach a good deal upon their time, so much so that it would deprive them of more than half the time they would otherwise avail themselves of in catching fish, &c.

Now, the second point that deserves serious consideration is whether the scheme would pay the Government. It would appear from the above that the scheme, far from encouraging the fishery, would (as the fishers themselves are of opinion) discourage the enterprize to a notable

extent; and the natural sequence would be a fall in the sale of salt. Such a reduced sale, if calculated at 66 cents per cwt., would hardly meet the expenses Government would incur in establishing kottus and maintaining them.

Even supposing that there would be an increase in the sale—which I very much doubt—we cannot expect that the increase would be so great as to double the present sale. Even taking it for granted that it doubles, it would not produce the present revenue under this head, since the present value (Rs. 2·36) is nearly four times as much as the proposed value (66 cents); and should the cost of maintaining ten establishments be charged against such a fallen revenue, there would be a large balance thrown to the debit side.

It would appear from statement C. that the largest quantity of salt sold in any one year during the last ten years was 3,842 cwts. If this doubles at all under the proposed system it would realize an amount of about Rs. 5,000, which is barely sufficient to meet the expenses that will have to be incurred in maintaining ten establishments (vide statement E.), not to speak of the charges for establishing the same (vide statement D).

There are about 15 alams (salt-forming places) in the whole of the Mullaittívu District, and on an average a quantity of 2,000 cwts. of salt may be collected annually if salt forms tolerably well. An expenditure of about Rs. 990 will have to be incurred on account of the same (*vide* statement G). But for the most part salt will have to be destroyed, as it will not pay the cost of collecting.

I beg, &c.,

S. SABARATNAM,
Storekeeper.

Mullaittívu Kachcheri,
20th August, 1883.

C.

STATEMENT showing the Quantity of Salt sold to the fishers for the last ten years from 1872 to 1882.

YEAR.	Quantity. cwts.	Amount. Rs.	cts.
1872	1,922	4,495	92
1873	1,631	3,849	16
1874	1,693	3,995	48
1875	2,108	4,974	88
1876	2,570	6,065	20
1877	1,993	4,703	48
1878	2,477	5,845	72
1879	3,842	9,067	12
1880	3,533	8,337	88
1881	2,785	6,552	60
1882	2,414	5,697	4

D.

PROBABLE COST of erecting ten kottus along the seashore between Chundikulam and Kokulai.

Description of Services for a single Kottu.	Amount. Rs.	cts.
20 posts at Rs 3 per post, including royalty	60	0
300 rafters at Rs. 6 and odd per 100	20	0
2,000 varichies at Rs. 5 per 1,000	10	0
Creepers	5	0
4,000 olas at Rs 5 per 1,000	20	0
10 carpenters at 75 cents per head	7	50
30 coolies	20	0
1 door and stand with locks	20	0
Miscellaneous	12	50
For fencing	20	0
For a single kottu ... Rs.	195	0
For 10 kottus ... Rs.	1,950	0

E.

ANNUAL COST for maintaining the ten salt-curing establishments along the sea beach.

Description of Services for each Establishment.	Amount. Rs.	cts.
Salary of a Storekeeper at Rs. 25 per mensem	300	0
Do. 2 watchers at Rs. 10 each per mensem	240	0
Value of furniture, stationery, &c.	40	0
Contingent charges	20	0
Repair of fence and kottu	50	0
For 1 kottu ... Rs.	650	0
For 10 kottus ... Rs.	6,500	0

F.

AVERAGE expenditure now incurred annually on account of the formation of salt in the Mullaittívu District.

Description of Service.		Amount. Rs.	cts.
Watching formation of salt	... ...	250	0
Destroying salt formed	... ...	50	0
	Rs.	300	0

G.

STATEMENT showing the Quantity of Salt that might be collected in Mullaittívu, and the expenditure that will have to be incurred on account of the same.

The largest quantity that may be collected ... cwts. 10,000
The moderate quantity that may be collected .. „ 2,000

Description of Service.		Amount. Rs.	cts.
Hire of two watchers at each of the 15 alams in the district for 4 months during the year at Rs. 7·50 per mensem	...	900	0
Hire for collecting and removing the salt	...	90	0
	Rs.	990	0

"True copy"

S. SABARATNAM.

SAML. HAUGHTON,
Assistant Government Agent.

Enclosure No. 2 in No. 2.

From the Assistant Government Agent, Mannár.

1. The methods of preserving fish usually practised in the Mannár District are salting and drying; a small quantity is also pickled. By the first process, the fish are cleaned, split, the interior filled with salt, and the fish are then left under shade for a considerable time. If the fish are very large they are cut into slices and covered with powdered salt. In wet weather, a second application of salt is sometimes necessary. Opinions vary as to the amount of salt required to cure fish in this manner, but the average appears to be a weight of salt equal to three-fourths that of the fish.

In the preparation of dry fish, or "karawadu," the fish are split, lightly salted, and then exposed to the sun for three days. Salt equal to one-third the weight of the fish is used. Small fish about the size of sprats, called "nettoli," "toli," and "chalai" are merely exposed to the sun without any salt. Large quantities of these small fish are dried in this manner.

2. The possibility of increasing the salting of fish depends on the possibility of increasing the supply of fish (see reply to question 9). All the traders (except one in Perunkali Pattu) say that the amount of fish cured by them is limited only by the supply of fish, and not by the cost of salt, so that if this be the case the introduction of the scheme would merely entail a loss on the sale of salt without increasing the supply of salt fish. The one exception above referred to was a trader of Verteltivu in Perunkali, who informed me that he would be able to cure three times as much fish if the price of salt were reduced, and that he would have no difficulty in obtaining the extra supply of fish. This is so inconsistent with the statements of the traders in Mannár Island that I am inclined to doubt the possibility of his doing so; but still it is probable that the fishermen on the mainland would catch more fish if there were a better market for them.

3. There would be no difficulties in carrying out the scheme proposed other than those noticed by the Hon. the Auditor-General in his memorandum, and this district would seem to be pre-eminently adapted both by climate and by position for the purpose. Still I do not think a fish-curing establishment would prove a success by increasing the quantity of fish cured, owing to the fact that at present the traders cure all the fish that they can obtain, and the supply is unequal to the demand. The difficulties in the way of increasing the supply are noticed below in answer to question 9.

As stated above, Vidattaltivu is the only place where I was informed that the demand was in excess of the supply, and I do not place much confidence in the statement. If, in spite of the loss that may be expected, it is decided to make the experiment, Arippu, Verteltivu, and probably Pésáláí in Mannár Island would, I think, be the best places in which to set up fish-curing establishments.

4. Government salt alone is used.

5. No.

6. The general opinion appears to be that it has decreased owing to the decrease in the supply of fish caused by the fishermen going away to Mullaittívu and Trincomalee, where fish are said to be more plentiful than off the Mannár coast. The fishermen say that the fishery round Mannár Island has fallen off of late years in an unaccountable manner.

7. There is one fisher headman called the Adappan. He is appointed by the Government Agent. He is the headman of the fisher community, and has to supervise chank fishing, upkeep

of channel marks, to prevent the use of illegal nets, report drift timber, wrecks, etc., etc. His pay is Rs. 180 per annum.

8. No private individual claims rights in respect of the sea fisheries. Certain restrictions are imposed by Government in Ordinance 18 of 1843 in order to protect the pearl banks.

9. Fishing is carried on all along the coast of the island and of the mainland pattus. The principal fishing stations are

		Boats.	Men.
In Mannár Island	Pésáláí, Talaimannár, Nadukkudá, Erukkulampiddy, San Pedro, Mannár, Talvupadu	100	700
Mantai Pattu, Perunkali Pattu, Iluppaikadavai Pattu.	Palakamunnai, Verteltivu, Iluppaikadavai	30	100
Musalai Pattu and Nanaḍḍan.	Arippu, Vankalai, Mullikulam, Silavaturai	40	250*

The fisheries might be greatly improved by the introduction of improved modes of fishing. At present the only nets used to any extent are the aḍasuvali and karavali, which both resemble a sieve, and sweep only the comparatively shallow water near shore. No deep-sea fishing is carried on by the Tamil fishermen, whose little canoes, or "ballams" as they are called, are unsuited for rough water. With larger boats and better nets the fisheries might be greatly increased.

The use of drift nets is forbidden by Ordinance No. 18 of 1843, and this restriction has a great effect in reducing the supply of fish.

Another cause which tends to prevent any improvement is the state of bondage in which most of the fishermen exist. A fisherman goes to a trader and borrows Rs. 60 or Rs. 70 on a bond, by which he agrees to supply the trader with fish at a rate usually much below the market price until the bond is discharged by the value of fish so supplied. The trader continues to make small advances from time to time, and a running account is kept up, always showing a trifle due to the trader in excess of the amount originally borrowed. Before the bond becomes prescribed, the trader induces the fisherman to execute another to replace it, without any further advance, and generally calculating interest on the previous bond for the previous eight or nine years. If the fisherman refuses, the bond is put in suit, and the foolish fisherman very rarely contests the case, although, as a rule, he has discharged the bond many times over by the value of fish supplied. So long as the fisherman gets a trifle now and then he is satisfied, and he is either unable or unwilling to take the trouble of examining the accounts, which are kept by the trader alone. Under this system the fisherman has no inducement to work, he thinks it is impossible for him ever to escape from his bondage, and so only does enough to enable him to live from hand to mouth.

10. Shark of different kinds—karunkani párai, kaḍḍa, peraminpárai, koduwameen, koḍakural, arukkula, chúrai, chalai, theddokkèluro, perumpalai, champachchiraya, chiraiya; vával of different kinds—uly, valai, kalinganmural, thuruvan; parai of different kinds—churakkuddy, manalai, small keleru, kuthippo, kuḍaikuṭṭy, kaṭṭálai, manna, thondan, kiriminchalai, púvály; different kinds of skates—punaikaney, údakam, pálai, panná, paiindy, chéry, órá, kilakkan, cheppali, kalavái, chenkany, velaimeen, mathanam, tholan, pullikaṭṭákutty, koi, and vaiyana. Fish cured without salt are tholi, neṭṭoli, chálai, chúdai and shrimps karal.

I do not think much damage is done by the capture of immature or of gravid fish. I have frequently examined the contents of nets just drawn, and though they invariably contain quantities of small fish, the fishermen say that these are not the fry of larger fish, and from the uniformity of their size I believe this is correct.

Many years ago the fishermen petitioned against the introduction of the nets called kallangkaddivali (which is placed so as to enclose a sand bank, and catch fish on the bank when the tide falls) on the ground that it destroyed the immature fish, and I have no doubt that it does so; it is very little used here now.

11. The well-to-do fishermen have their own nets and boats, but the majority hire them, paying either at a fixed rate or wish a share of the fish.

The nets called aḍasuvali are obtained from India, karavali from Colombo, and the small meshed nets used for catching toli and nettoli are made in Mannár by the fishermen themselves.

12. About one-third of the fish caught is sold fresh, and two-thirds salted and dried.

The total value of the fish caught in the district is probably over Rs. 35,000 in ordinary years, of which Rs. 25,000 worth is salted or dried. A large proportion of this salt and dry-fish is exported to India.

13 and 14. Both have remained stationary.

Mannár Kachcheri,
11th September, 1883.

G. M. FOWLER,
Assistant Government Agent.

* Besides 100 Siphalese who come to Arippu during the north-east monsoon.

Enclosure No. 3 in No. 2.

From the Adappan of Mannár to the Adigar of Mannár.

In reference to the order received from the Mannár Kachcheri, I beg to forward herewith a statement showing the value of fish caught and made into dried and salted fish in Mannár Island, Musali, and Mantai Pattus during the month of August, 1883 :—

		Rs.	cts.
Mannár Island.			
Value of dried fish	...	2,205	0
Do. salted fish	...	100	0
Mantai Pattu.			
Value of dried fish	...	500	0
Musali Pattu.			
Value of dried fish	...	105	0
Total —		Rs. 2,910	0

(Signed) D. A. Perera,
Adappan of Mannár.

8th September, 1883.

(True copy) G. M. FOWLER,
Assistant Government Agent.

No. 3.

From the Government Agent, Eastern Province, to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

Batticaloa Kachcheri,
15th September, 1883.

No. $\frac{291}{11}$.

Sir,—With reference to your letter No. 205 of 6th July, I have the honour to annex copy of a letter from my Assistant at Trincomalee, and its annexures, which give a full account of the points on which information is desired so far as that district is concerned.

As regards Batticaloa I have to report as follows :—

The people of this district rely for their supply of fish entirely on the inland waters, which are a special feature of this part of Ceylon, and there is little or no fishing carried on by any of them in the sea. Undoubtedly a very large quantity of fish is drawn from the lake, but it is nearly all consumed fresh by the friends and families of the catchers, and when any surplus exists it is split and dried during the dry hot weather which prevails on this coast from March to October, but no curing with salt is practised by the residents of the district.

Another influence adverse to the probability of the natives of Batticaloa taking to sea fishery is the full employment in the cultivation of paddy, which is available for all classes, especially during the south-west monsoon, when a smooth sea prevails on this coast. It is, therefore, extremely improbable the people of this district will abandon the ensured harvest of the land for the indefinite prospect of a "harvest of the sea." No increase in the production of salt fish can consequently be hoped for from this source.

But there is another quarter from which an increased production of salt fish can, I expect, be drawn if the industry be carefully fostered. This is to be found in the Siṇhalese fishers who come round from the western and southern coasts during the south-west monsoon, when fishing operations on this side of the Island can be carried on in a tranquil sea. Gangs of these men are, I believe, to be found at this season all along the East coast, from the Basses to near Point Pedro, following their vocation in waters not fished in at all but by themselves. The principal station of these people in this district is at Punnakudah (also known as Sorentyan Bay), about the centre of the bay stretching from the Batticaloa flagstaff to Vendeloos Point. I proceeded some time back to this place, and attach a memorandum of the information I gathered from the Siṇhalese fishers.

From these notes it will be gathered that the fishery now conducted is lucrative, especially to the owner of the large net used, which does not, I believe, cost more than Rs. 300, while it brings in, as its share, fish to the value of twice this to its fortunate owner, and each of the ordinary hands employed afloat clears about Rs. 6 per mensem besides his keep. These men viewed with indifference the proposal to place salt at a cheaper rate within their reach under certain restrictions. They, however, pointed out practical difficulties in the bringing of large quantities of fish to central depôts to be salted; and while the margin of trade profit is so large, I doubt if they would avail themselves of the proposed facilities to obtain cheap salt unless the curing yards were multiplied to an extent inconsistent with the probable results. But an experimental one might be tried at a point where cheap supervision could be obtained—for instance, the Batticaloa bar flagstaff, where the signalling staff would be available for a small extra remuneration. At Punnakudah there is no resident who could be employed, and special supervisors and watchers would have to be provided at an enhanced cost.

As regards the other points on which information in your letter is asked for, I have to report as follows:—

(*a*) The process of preserving is fully detailed in the notes of my visit to Punnakudah.

(*b*) Government salt is entirely used for curing fish in this district; I am assured salt-earth or sea water is not used for this purpose.

(*c*) The only fisher headmen in this district are two pattankatties, to whom this title was given in 1866 by the Assistant Agent of this district, who are supposed to regulate the fishing rights in portions of the lake where quarrels between the fishers of Puliyantívu and Puhadikuda occasionally arise. The office is not hereditary, and carries no emoluments.

(*d*) Neither Government nor private parties claim special rights in respect of the sea fisheries.

(*e*) The kinds of fish caught on this coast are reported to be tóru (seer fish), kellawalla, ẹtawalla (Tamil surai) kadavai, vẹtiyas, tumbayas, prawn, etanaguruwa (kamukanni) werkku (palai), gọḍayas (manalai), senganni, móru, maḍuwa (skates), hurulla, kumbalawa, &c. The fisheries are not injured by the capture of immature and gravid fish.

All things considered, I feel justified in reporting that there is every probability of a moderate increase in the production of salt fish even without the proposed assistance in the way of cheaper salt, provided the industry be fostered by the repeal of the prohibition against the use of the má-ḍẹls, and by affording the Siṇhalese fishers facilities to acquire sites along the coast for their temporary habitations and drying grounds, especially at Punnakudah; here there have been some difficulties in this respect. Another concession for which the fishermen state they would be grateful is a reduction of the freight on salt fish by the "Serendib" from a shilling to sixpence per cwt.

I am, &c.,

E. ELLIOTT,
Acting Government Agent.

Enclosure No. 1 in No. 3.

Notes of enquiry regarding Sea-fisheries in Batticaloa District made at Punnakudah on the 2nd August, 1883.

CAME by water from the bar at Batticaloa in padah boat belonging to the Siṇhalese fishers and at Punnakudah met a number of them and examined the large net used by them, which they call má-ḍẹl, and the Tamils karavalai; also met Vanniah of Eravur, Udaiyar, and some of the Moors interested in fishing on this coast.

The use of the karavalai is forbidden, by the Proclamation of the 9th April, 1881, within three miles of the shore, which also required that the meshes of the net be not less than two inches square.

1. Vanniah of Eravur says, in reply to questions:—

"The people of Batticaloa North fish very little in the sea, having access to interval waters, which supply their immediate wants. At Punnakudah there are about twenty persons who fish with lines, and sometimes use small hand nets. Till 1881 the Siṇhalese used to come in large numbers and use the karavalai without any interference. In 1880 the Siṇhalese began to quarrel amongst themselves about the places in which to fish. This drew the Government Agent's attention to the matter, and some of the residents also objected to the karavalai net being used. Mr. Worthington called on the Vanniah for report, who called attention to the small meshes of a portion of the net which led to small as well as big fish being caught promiscuously. Then Mr. Worthington wrote to Government, and the Proclamation was issued.

"At that time twice the number of men and boats were engaged in the fisheries on this coast, and they employed a number of vedahs or coolies in their operations, and salt fish was cheap.

"As a rule the fishers have given no trouble, except the quarrels amongst themselves in 1880.

"After the Proclamation was issued I prosecuted some persons, and they were fined—that was in 1882—after which they went to their villages, but they have returned this year. I submitted a plaint to prosecute this year, but have received no orders.

"I have heard nothing of any increase or decrease in the fish in the sea since this Proclamation was issued; but the supply in the markets has been less, and fish has risen in price.

"The salt is procured from Puliyantívu. I have never heard of the fishers using salt water or salt mud. There is no salt mud in Eravur, but there is in Koralai Pattu, about thirty-five miles north of Batticaloa and two miles inland from the sea. Salt forms there every year, and salt used to be collected till 1850 or 1851."

The chief persons amongst the Siṇhalese are Pedro Fernando of Maggona (who has been coming round to this coast fishing for thirty-five or forty years during the south-west monsoon) and Serephen Fernando of Maggona (who has been here about 12 years, and owns a net and trades in salt fish, though he does not actually fish himself.)

There are some twenty more Siṇhalese present, for whom two act as spokesmen, and state in reply to my questions:—

"The net shown the Government Agent, and called by the Vanniah "karavalai," is a má-ḍẹl, and same in all respects as the má-ḍẹl used in the west coast of this Island. In the biggest má-ḍẹl used here the bag is seven fathoms long and the mouth is a fathom square. The whole net is 500 fathoms long on either side of the bag.

"The meshes in the bag are about half an inch square, and in the wing they are from two inches to two fathoms square. The bag on the western coast is made of coir closely woven, but we do not use such a bag here because it is too heavy to pull in and requires more men. Since the forbidding of the use of this net close to shore a smaller number of us have come. Our principal

station is in this bay between Batticaloa light and Vendeloos Point. Sometimes we go further north when fishes set that way—as far as Vakere (Challitívu) near Panchen-keni—but our principal station is at Punnakudah.

"At present there are four lots of us, viz., people from

Mirissa	...	3	Gangs using	3	Má-dels, and employing	60 men
Dodanduwa	...	1		1		20 "
Maggona	...	5		9		100 "
Negombo	...	1		2		20 "

"Amongst us there are at present 9 poroowas and 15 canoes, besides a balam (used by Negombo people).

"Besides the Siṇhalese who come from the west coast, we employ about 150 vedahs in hauling nets, salting fish, &c. Besides the má-ḍel men, there are three canoes and twelve men engaged in line fishing; they also salt their fish.

"Some of our fresh fish we sell locally, the rest we salt. According to the prices ruling, we send the salted fish to Badulla and Colombo."

[Pedro Fernando here states his three má-ḍels with sixty fishers catch fish worth Rs. 1,000 a month; others say it is never less than this, sometimes more. The fishery continues 8 months, and the expenses for feeding come to Rs. 2,000; deducting this from the nett proceeds, half the profit goes to the net owner, and half to the men employed.]

"In former years, before the Proclamation regarding the má-ḍel, there were a great many more fishers. To our knowledge two parties with five nets who were here last year have not come this; others were willing to come, but desisted on account of this prohibition. If it were removed our numbers would be more than double, we are sure. Our people would come because fishing is overdone on the west coast, and here we make more money, chiefly by supplying Badulla with salt fish. We make two kinds of salt fish, loonoo-málu (salt fish) and loonoo karavala (dried salt fish) (karavadoo in Tamil). Loonoo-málu is preserved in jars or casks; this is manufactured in rainy weather when we cannot dry. Karavala is what we prefer to make, and pays us best: more demand for it amongst the Tamil coolies. For loonoo-málu, the fish is cleaned, washed, salt rubbed in with goraka juice, or laid in layers in jars with salt.

"For karavadoo the fish is split and cleaned, rubbed over with salt, and put in the sun to dry —with a good hot sun three days' exposure is sufficient (at night it is covered up); – it is then tied up in bundles.

"The quantity of salt used varies with the size of the fish and is in direct proportion to the size. A hundredweight of salt will suffice for 2 or 2½ cwt. of karavadoo, of large fish varying from 1 foot to 3 or 3½ feet in length. For small fish, 1 cwt. will cure 4½ to 5 cwts. of karavadoo. These weights are of the manufactured outturn.

"Salt now costs us Rs. 2·66. Karavadoo varies from Rs. 8 a cwt. to Rs. 12 on the seashore here; by taking it round to the west coast we can get Rs. 3 more as a rule. We send a good deal by the "Serendib," for which we pay 50 cents a cwt. Lately, P. Fernando alone sent 126 cwts. by one voyage. That was one month's fishing. We have carts of our own for transporting fish to Badulla."

[The proposal of Government is explained to the fishers present, but from their replies it is clear they are quite satisfied with existing arrangements if the Proclamation against the má-ḍel be removed.]

"Fish cannot be carried very far when once caught without being salted, except in small quantities and with much care, which we cannot do with the large quantities we have to deal with, which are also exposed much to the sun; but if a salting depôt were established at Punnakudah one half of the fishing of thirteen má-ḍels could be brought to it. The Negombo people, who fish three miles from this, could not use it, or the Mirisse people northward. Not only would the fish possibly spoil on the way, but the men would be away from their fishing ground and lose chances of casting when a shoal came in shore. The fact is, the curing must be done close to the fishing ground, or more people will have to be engaged, as the net hands could not do the curing.

"We take fish to Puliyantívu (Batticaloa town) and sell it, and come back with salt. The winds are sometimes contrary, and it would be a convenience to bring salt closer.

"The fishers complain that some Tamils of Katankudiruppu beyond Batticaloa come and throw nets inside their enclosure. These are the people who have petitioned against the Siṇhalese fishers recently. The Eravur people have no complaint to make."

E. ELLIOTT,
Acting Government Agent.

Enclosure No. 2 in No. 3.

From the ASSISTANT GOVERNMENT AGENT, Trincomalee, to the GOVERNMENT AGENT, Eastern Province, Batticaloa.

No. 376/$\frac{19}{11}$. 1st August, 1883.

SIR,—REFERRING to your letter No. 1283/11 of the 11th ultimo, I have the honor to report as follows:—

1. I beg to refer to the able report of the Kachchéri Mudaliyár.

2. The salting of the fish cannot be increased until more fishers frequent our coast. The curers will salt all they can catch without stimulus.

3. As Government salt is bought at full value, and all the available fish thoroughly salted by the native capitalists who trade as fish curers, I see no reason to reduce the price of salt, these persons making large profits already.

4. Government salt is solely used.

5. Salt-earth and sea-water are not used. The practice of curing in salt-earth did not arise on the west coast from cheapness in other districts, but because a special demand exists and existed for fish so cured, the flavour of which (though repulsive to Europeans) is as appetising as caviare to some natives. In point of fact there is no economy, as so much goes bad when cured in this way; the reduction in price for allowance for waste of fish made by the wholesale dealers in their purchase money far exceeds the saving in salt. On this account curing in salt-earth is being generally abandoned I am told. On this coast such fish-curing seems unknown. Sea-water is used to cleanse fish of slime and blood, &c., and fish is cured with salt added afterwards.

6. Fishing is slowly on the increase, and if the Assistant Government Agent gave encouragement to the Siṇhalese fish-curers of Negombo, &c., the coast fisheries would vastly develope. These people give advances to the fishers to enable them to buy and improve their nets, boats, and equipment. In return they receive all the fish caught at fixed rates, and cure it for export. Being all petty capitalists, they never run short of funds for salt, and make large profits, leaving a very good margin of profit to the fishers also.

8. Fishing in tidal waters has always been free.

9. I beg to refer to the annexed list. The fishing trade has not attained a little of its legitimate importance.

10. Sardines frequent Trincomalee harbour in unusual abundance, and fine silver mullet (true mullet, not the entirely different fish often so-called) are found about the mouths of the Mahawali-gaṇga. Other fish seem generally practically the same as those of the west coast. I have not observed the black tunny (Siṇhalese balaya) however. I believe the fisheries are quite uninjured by undue capture.

11. They procure their own boats, nets, &c., with their own capital or that of the fish-curers. A great want of fibre for lines and nets exists here, and cotton twist is used at great cost of preparation. An experimental field of "hanna" (crotalaria), the fibre used on the west coast, ought to be grown by Government to test its introduction. Soil and climate seem well adapted, and its production locally will give great impetus to the fishing industry.

12. The fish is sold fresh for local use by hawkers, the remainder being sold by the fishers to the fish-curers.

13, 14. I refer to the Mudaliyár's report.

I am, &c.,
H. NEVILL,
Assistant Government Agent.

LIST showing approximate number of Fishermen referred to in paragraph 9.

Villages.	No. of fishermen.	Villages.	No. of fishermen.
Trincomalee	450	Kumpprupiddi	15
Sampaltívu	80	Tennamaravaddi	25
Mankinai	10	Nachchikuda	2
Salli	25	Tampalakam	14
Nilaveli	50		

These men belong to the following races:—Moors, Mukkuvars, Timilar, Karrear, and speak Tamil.

Trincomalee Kachcheri,
1st August, 1883.

H. NEVILL,
Assistant Government Agent.

Sub-enclosure in No. 2 in No. 3.

REMARKS submitted by S. Tambimuttoe, Mudaliyár.

SIR,—I BEG to submit my report giving replies to the questions annexed to Colonial Secretary's letter No. 1105 of 4th July, 1883.

1. Fish are salted and preserved in four kinds in this district, and the process is varied in each, as follows:—

(1) *Dried fish.*—The fish is opened by its back or side—generally by the back—entrails taken out and the body sliced inside lightly, and then washed in salt or sea water. Salt powdered into dust is applied inside, thickly to the incised parts, and the fish so prepared, after being kept in tubs or baskets, is taken out next day, unfolded and spread out in the sun until thoroughly dry.

(2) *Salt fish.*—The fish is cleared of entrails, sliced and washed as above, salt applied—double the quantity used for dry-fish—and packed, spread in barrels, and is not exposed to the sun to dry.

(3) *Tamarind fish.*—The fish being cleaned and washed as above, is spread out in a tub or other receptacle, and powdered salt mixed in tamarind juice water thickly applied above, it being repeated above every layer or row of fish so spread.

(4) *Goraka fish.*—The same process is done in all respects, except that goraka is used with salt to preserve it.

It should be also noted here that only big fish are cured and preserved in the above ways, and the smallest fish are simply dried in the sun without being salted.

2. Though the salting of sea fish increases or decreases according to the demand for preserved fish in the markets of the interior towns, yet a scheme whereby salt is offered for sale at a less rate than the present value of Rs. 2·36 per cwt., and at places central or as near as possible to thickly-populated fishing quarters on the sea coast, may perhaps encourage fishermen; but I doubt if they will use to any great extent curing sheds so erected. If salt is sold at a reduced rate I think the revenue from that source will decrease.

3. Yes, subject to the remark in the concluding sentence of the foregoing paragraph. Curing establishments at three places can be set up:—(1) at Trincomalee in No. 10 division; (2) at Kalla-iravu between the villages of Kuchcheveli and Tiriyai in Kaddukulam Pattu; (3) at Mútúr between the mouths of Mútúr-áru and Gongai river.

The one at Trincomalee would be very advantageous and useful, besides being a permanent establishment; the two others can be held only temporarily, as they will be used only during the time when Siṇhalese and other fishermen catch fish in the sea there at the turn of favourable weather.

4. Yes.

5. Salt water used for cleaning fish.

6. The practice of salting fish has considerably increased owing to the arrival of an increased number of traders in salt fish from Colombo, Kandy, Galle, Mátalé and other places, probably owing to the heavy demand for the commodity at those places.

7. Yes, a Police Vitane for No. 10 division of Trincomalee. Not hereditary, but obtained by qualifications eligible for the office. The general duties of a Police Vitane are to keep the fish market clean and in order, and the buildings in repair, for which he is paid two cents for each seat occupied in the sheds daily; he also attests cattle sale notes, for which a fee of 25 cents is paid for each note.

8. No place of fishing in the sea in this district is claimed by private individuals; all places belong to Government.

9. Trincomalee, and all villages on the north and south coasts of it. *North Coast.*—Salli, Monkinai, Nilaveli, Kumprapiddi, Kuchchaveli, Kallairavu near Tiriyai, Pulmoddai and Trincomalee side of Kokkulai lake. *South Coast.*—Palaiuttu, Pekiluttu, Chironvadi, Kavaddikuda, Nedunkuda, Tirukaikuda, Kavamalaiuttu, Vepankuda, Kiniyai Upparu, Gangai Muhattuvaram, Muturmahattuvaram, Sampur, Kunittivu, Foul Point, Ilakantai and Ilantaituraiare. About 350 men—250 of this country and 100 foreign fishermen—are employed with about 40 karaivalai nets, and nearly 400 men of this country are employed, with about 150 canoes, in fishing with lines, and there is reason to believe the enterprize is capable of much further development.

10. Fish of all sizes and in different states are caught, and I have not heard that the fisheries have been in any way injured by the capture of immature and gravid fish.

11. They are supplied with boats and nets made in this country, as well as with some descriptions of adaisuvalai and peruvalai procured from Jaffna, Mannár and India.

12. The fishermen dispose of almost all fish (excepting, of course what is required for sale at the fish markets and taken through the town by fisher basket-women) by auction—the big fish in lots of 25 to 100, and the smallest fish in basket measures—to traders, who salt and preserve them for removal to markets of demand. A small quantity is dried and preserved by the country fishermen, but the salting of fish is chiefly done by foreigners who trade in the article.

13. The number has increased.

14. Boats have increased in number, and the size of them has also slightly increased.

I have, &c.,
S. TAMBIMUTTOE,
Mudaliyár.

30th July, 1883.

No. 4.

From the GOVERNMENT AGENT, North-Western Province, to the Hon. the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

No. $\frac{343}{23}$.

Kurunégala Kachchéri,
12th September, 1883.

SIR,—IN forwarding the enclosed copy of a report from my Assistant at Puttalam, as called for by your letter No. 212 of the 4th July last, I have the honor to state that I fully concur in the view taken of the question by my Assistant and the Mudaliyárs.

I have always believed that the proportion of fishermen to the quantity of fish available was fairly maintained, and have noticed the frequency of applications for extension of salt permits issued to fishermen on the ground of "scarcity of fish."

Fishing is here, as elsewhere, a precarious industry, and in the Puttalam district I feel sure that fishing and fish-curing are not very remunerative occupations. They, moreover, involve hard and steady work, which is far from congenial to the nature of the Siṇhalese. None, therefore, will follow these occupations who can subsist upon the bare produce of a cocoanut garden or a tobacco plantation.

The profits of fish-curing can only be increased by the proposed scheme, if it is the present cost of salt which keeps these profits low. Of this I see no evidence, and I doubt if salt, pure and unadulterated, is much used in fish-curing.

The establishment of Government kottus might lead to a better system of curing, and even to the increase of the profits upon the trade, if the fishing grounds were close to each other and all within easy reach of the kottu. This, however, is not the case. The total number of

fishermen employed in the Puttalam district is estimated at only 2,400, and they are scattered along 50 or 60 miles of sea-board.

The only large centre with which I am acquainted is Udappu, where there are said to be 300 men working 14 boats and 15 kattumarams. If it is thought advisable to establish a kottu for experimental purposes (and this would perhaps be better than treating the question from a purely speculative point of view, as we are now doing), Udappu would be a favourable locality for the experiment.

This need not be a very costly one, as Udappu is within a mile of the canal, and within four miles of Battulu-oya. Jungle timber is available, and if the kottu were opened in November the experiment could be tried under the most favourable conditions during the ensuing fishing season.

I have, &c.,
P. A. TEMPLER,
Acting Government Agent.

Enclosure in No. 4.

No. 725/1.

Puttalam Kachcheri,
September 10th, 1883.

SIR,—IN forwarding the replies to the queries contained in the Hon. the Colonial Secretary's letter attached to your letter No. 451/23, I have the honor to point out that the Mudaliyárs seem unanimous in considering that the fishing industry cannot be increased.

The quantity of salt available for fish-curing cannot be stated exactly. It would depend entirely on the surplus stock after the ordinary demands—amounting to about 250,000 cwts. per year—have been provided for. As the supply at present is only a very little more than enough for one year, and the success of the manufacture for the present year is still very doubtful, no large quantity certainly could be spared. Judging, however, from the reports of the District Mudaliyárs, no large demand need be apprehended from this district if the scheme were tried.

There are, however, two enquiries which might throw light on the matter :—

(*a*) Is the fishing population, *i.e.*, those who belong to the fisher caste, fully employed in this occupation.

(*b*) If not, in what districts are the surplus fisher caste people who *might* be induced by the reduction in the cost of salt to enter on this occupation to be found?

I have personally conferred with the Mudaliyár of Kalpitiya, and his views are that there is at present so *great a scarcity of fish* that the men who engage in fishing in this district fully occupy all the fishing grounds, and are not able to make any large profit from their labours.

The almost complete standstill in the number of the men engaged in fishing seems due to one or more of three suppositions, either (1) that the supply of fish is very small, or (2) that the profits from fishing and fish-curing are too small to induce men who can gain a certain livelihood in any other ways to take to it, or (3) that the *available* fishing population is fully occupied.

The introduction of the scheme under consideration would probably affect the second supposition, but if the first and third are facts the object of the scheme seems impossible of being realized.

I hope to make personal enquiries very shortly from the Mudaliyárs of Pitigal Kóralé South and North in the matter, the result of which will be forwarded.

I have to express my regret for the delay in not forwarding my report earlier. I only became aware of the existence of the correspondence about ten days ago ; all the reports had not then been received.

I am, &c.,
CHAS. D. VIGORS,
Assistant Government Agent.

Sub-Enclosure No. 1 in Enclosure in No. 4.

From D. Rosairo, Mudaliyár.

1. For the ten or twelve varieties (see answer No. 10) of fish usually caught off this coast there are five different modes of salting practised, as follows :—

(*a*) Split entirely and cleaned, salt rubbed over the inside, and the fish left in the sun to dry.

(*b*) Split except the head, cleaned, salt rubbed into the body, which is then doubled up and buried under the beach sand, the place being changed more than once; when partially dry the fish is completely dried by exposure to the sun.

(*c*) The head only is opened. Fish cleaned, thicken and salt stuffed into the body, which is then dried in the sun.

(*d*) Cut into slices of about one inch in thickness, rubbed with salt, and covered with salt in a chatty or vessel.

(*e*) After cleaning and splitting, salt is rubbed into the fish, which is then packed in jars with gorka fruit ; this constitutes jády. Small fish of every variety is simply sun-dried ; they constitute about one-third of the total quantity of fish taken.

2. As there is no scarcity of fishermen, I am of opinion that the quantity of fish caught cannot be increased with the appliances now in use.

3. Although not advisable to carry out the scheme in my division, it is not impracticable, and small expense would attend the establishment of an experimental station at Sanatoduwa or Vattapatti with a central fishing depôt.

4. Nothing but Government salt is used in my division.
5. No.
6. The practice of salting fish is on the decrease from the scarcity of fish.
7. None.
8. No.
9. Andimanai, Vammivattan, Pulicarachchan, Pudupadu, Periya Vattapatta, Sinna-Vattapatta, Kanda Toduwa, Muhuwa Toduwa, Sana Toduwa, Sema Toduwa, Talayady, Attatannai, Erukalayady, Talavillu, Kappalady, Adaikarai, Eachchankadu, Minarimundel, Kattanatty, Kundakuly, Dutch Bay, Karadivu Island, &c. The number of men is about 900, and the number of boats employed by them, of large and small size, is about thirty.
10. Seer fish, súrai, koduwa, valai, parai, katta, manalai, kaluru, saraya, kalai, shark, skate and different kinds of small fishes. The fishing is undoubtedly injured by the use of a small meshed net called kattuvalai, the use of which is, however, confined to shallow and lake water.
11. The fishermen use their own apparatus during the season—the north-east monsoon, from November to April.
12. The fish caught is sent to Colombo and the interior; the local demand is very small.
13. The number of fishermen has slightly increased.
14. The size of boats remains the same; the number increases in proportion to the number of fishermen.
2. The salt purchased for fish-curing purposes is delivered on orders from the Puttalam Kachchéri, where particulars of the surplus available can be better ascertained than here. The salt kept available in store here is ample for all purposes.

D. ROSAIRO,
Mudaliyár.

Kalpitiya, 5th September, 1883.

Sub-Enclosure No. 2 in Enclosure in No. 4.

From A. Lowe, Mudaliyár.

1. Three modes of preserving fish are generally adopted in my district, viz., first, when fish are caught, the largest ones (such as thórá, kattáwá, etawallá, &c.) are cut into slices. After the removal of their entrails, the slices are washed either with sea-water or brackish water, rubbed over with crushed salt, and packed either in gunny or mat bags. The fish thus preserved are called by the Sinhalese lunu-málu. Secondly, the large fish mentioned above are cut open on the back from the head to the tail without severing the back bone, and after the removal of the entrails the fish is opened out, its fleshy sides are slightly ripped from one end to the other, crushed salt applied all over its inside, its two sides are brought together again, and all the fish are heaped up in a hut for about twelve hours, and afterwards dried in the sun: this kind of fish is called karawala. The third process is as follows: the large fish are cut into slices and washed with a little sea-water or brackish water, afterwards mixed up (generally) with salt and prepared goraka or with tamarind, packed up in very large chatties or casks, and after it is left in this state for three days the chatties or casks are filled up with sea-water mixed with salt. It is fit for use after fifteen days, and will continue to be so for about three years. The fish thus prepared are called jády. The small fish (which are known as hál-messó) are preserved without the application of salt; they are simply spread out on sea-sand and exposed to the sun until they are quite dry. Sardines (súdayo), lággo, &c., undergo the third process, but without the removal of their entrails.
2. I am of opinion that the salting of sea-fish cannot be increased in my district.
3. It is neither advisable nor practicable to carry out such a scheme in my district.
4. Government salt is used in my district for curing fish.
5. Salt water mixed with Government salt is used for the purpose in my district; salt earth is not used.
6. The practice of salting fish has greatly decreased of late, inasmuch as above all the fish caught in this district have been carried away to Colombo, Kurunégala, and other places in a fresh state; secondly, as the income derived from fishing is very precarious; and, thirdly, for this reason—the descendants of the fishing class follow other callings to earn their livelihood.
7. No.
8. The Government does not claim any right of the sea fisheries, nor is there any private individual possessing the right to do so. The Roman Catholic fishermen voluntarily give one-tenth share of all the fish caught by them in aid of the funds of their church, and they have been doing so from the abolition of the fish tax by Government.
9. Fishing is carried on at the following places in my district, viz., Kandalady, Irrendo Panady, Ulhitiyáwa, Ratmákara, Katunériya, Máráwila, Mattakotuwa, and Toduwáwa. The number of men employed at the present time is about 1,220, while the boats, which are divided into two classes, má-delpáru and oru, are about 46 in number, viz., 32 of the former and 16 of the latter class, and in addition to these there are 100 rafts. There is no reason whatever to believe that the enterprize is capable of further development.
10. Being called upon to specify the different kinds of fish caught in this division, I beg to express with great regret my inability to give the English names of the different kinds of fish, and I am therefore obliged to give the Sinhalese names thereof, viz., tóru, móru, kattáwo, etanaguluwo, katuwallo, anjiláwo, balayo, kumbaláwo, pulunno, paráwo, súdayo, sálayo, lággo, &c. The fisheries are injured by the capture of immature fish, but it is difficult to prevent their capture as they are always with matured fish.
11. The fishermen generally make their own boats, and they occasionally purchase them.
12. The fishermen generally dispose of their fish by selling them in a fresh state, and very rarely by salting or otherwise preserving them.

13. The number of sea-fishermen has decreased in my district for the reasons given in my reply to question No. 6.

14. I believe there has been no increase in the number of boats employed in the sea-fishing, and the size remains the same.

I may mention, in reply to the concluding paragraph of the Hon. the Colonial Secretary's letter, that the supply of Government salt is quite sufficient to meet the demand in the district, that no fish are destroyed for want of salt, and that any surplus stock would be simply wasted.

A. LOWE,
Mudaliyár.

Máráwila, 18th August, 1883.

Sub-Enclosure No. 3 in Enclosure in No. 4.

From B. V. Samarakon, Mudaliyár.

1. There are three ways of curing fish in this district, viz., to dry fish by salting, to preserve by salting without drying, and preserving in earthen pots. The first is done by cutting a fish open lengthwise, washing it in sea water, applying salt and drying in sun : this is called the dried fish. The second is to cut the fish into slices of half an inch thickness or thereabouts, to apply salt, and place the slices in layers in a vessel : this is called the salt fish. The third is to open the backs of the moderate-sized fish, wash in sea water, stuff it with salt and the dried fruit called "goraka," and put them in an earthen vessel and pour sea water mixed with salt into it, and as the water dries fresh sea water is poured into it to prevent it being spoilt.

2. Under the present system the catching of sea fish cannot be increased. The fishers of this division are acquainted with the use of the nets called "kumbala-walai, kuruppu-walai, sura-walai, and kanny-walai" only, and by the aid of which they catch as much fish as it is possible for them to catch. They are not capable of adopting any new plan.

3. Under the circumstances abovementioned I do not consider that curing establishments could be advantageously carried out.

4. Yes.

5. Salt-earth is not used for the purpose, but sea water is used for the purpose, as stated in the first paragraph.

6. No increase or decrease.

7, 8. No.

9. Udappu, Muttupandy, Karukupana, Chilaw, Mutwal, and Ambekandawila. In these places sea fishing is carried on with nets for six months only, viz., from November to May. In the first-mentioned place there are fourteen boats and fifteen cattumarams, and 300 men who are residents of the place; the other places are visited by fishers from outstations during the above six months, consequently the exact number cannot be ascertained : however, the average number of cattumarams will be from 5 to 15 and with from 20 to 150 men.

10. Seer fish, súrai, kaṭṭa, kumbala, parai, ooli, súḍai, and sálaing : but the seer fish and kelawallo are caught by lines. Immatured fish, which are the prey of large fish, are caught in the nets near the shore amongst large fish : to prevent this is impossible. Gravid fish are also caught, but not in large quantities.

11. Boats and nets are purchased.

12. The fish is sold to traders for curing.

13, 14. Remain stationary.

B. V. SAMARAKON,
Mudaliyár.

26th August, 1883.

No. 5.

From the Assistant Government Agent, Puttalam, to the Government Agent, North-Western Province.

No. 766.

Puttalam Kachchéri,
18th September, 1883.

Sir,—Referring to paragraph No. 6 of my letter No. 725 of 10th instant, I have the honor to report that the result of personal consultation with the Mudaliyárs of Piṭigal Kóralé North and South is as follows :—

(a) Here fisher caste men are largely engaged in other trades, but owing to the fishing stations being fully occupied by the *regular* visitors or by residents, no development of the fishing industry is possible.

(b) In Piṭigal Kóralé South the Mudaliyár does not consider that 150 cwts. of salt is used for fish-curing from November to March, there being a good demand for fresh fish.

(c) In Piṭigal Kóralé North the curers cannot get sufficient fish, and have constantly to renew their salt permits.

(d) The only advantageous point for a salt-curing kottu in Piṭigal Kóralé North is Udappu, where about 3,000 cwts. of salt is probably used in the season. As this is close to the canal on one side and to the sea on the other, it is probable that the cost of salt transport, kottu and establishment would permit of the salt being sold at a rate considerably under the present one.

I am, &c.,

CHAS. D VIGORS,
Assistant Government Agent.

QUANTITY of salt used for fish-curing in 1882.

Piṭigal Kóralé North	...	cwts. 2,683
Puttalám and Kalpiṭiya	...	„ 662
	Total cwts.	3,345

No. 6.

Negombo Kachchéri,
6th September, 1883.

No. 708.

SIR,—I HAVE the honor to forward herewith the Mudaliyár's report with reference to salting fish.

I also append answers given to me by selected representatives of the fishers here.

With reference to question 2, the inquiry now being carried on seems to indicate an opinion that the large importation of fish from India is due rather to the difficulty of obtaining salt here than to the difficulty of obtaining fish.

My enquiries, however, seem to throw some doubt on this.

I know that for some years past the falling off in the supply of fish caught has been a constant cause of complaint among the fishermen, and I see no reason to doubt the men when they say that though the price of fish has risen, their profits have diminished owing to the great decrease in the quantity caught.

This is not, I believe, in any way due to idleness on the part of the fishers, or to a decrease in either fishers or boats, but entirely to a diminution in the number of fish frequenting the coasts, and an issue of salt in the manner proposed will not remedy this evil. It does not seem that the price of salt acts in any way as a deterrent to the fishermen. If fish could be taken in larger quantities the industry would pay well, even with salt at its present price, which, on an average take, is sufficient to pay the price of capture plus the price of salting. Fish, it is stated, is imported not because salt pays a duty here, but because the supply which can be caught in our seas is quite inadequate to the demand. If it were the cost of salt alone which limits the supply of dried fish, we would, I submit, find that much fresh fish was wasted; when there was a larger catch than usual, it would not pay to salt the excess; that when the price of fresh fish was almost nominal, the alternative would be between selling very cheap and throwing away; that the fishermen would not go out every day, or only for a short time, and that they could not be found far from centres of population.

I cannot, however, find that any of these results take place. I never heard of fish being wasted; the price of fresh fish is certainly not nominal; the fishers go out regularly and remain out all day. I can personally testify that the whole coast from the Trincomalee borders of the Mullaittívu District to Jaffna is regularly fished by Negombo and other fishermen, and so is the coast from Colombo to Tangalla.

I think there is some reason to doubt whether it is possible very largely to increase the quantity of fish caught, and I believe that any increase in the supply is only to be attained by a far more than proportional expenditure. I do not think that if the number of boats and fishermen were doubled they would catch anything like twice the number of fish.

If these views be correct, it seems to me very possible that Government might suffer a considerable loss of revenue without conferring a benefit on anyone.

Supposing that the importation of fish were to cease, and that the whole quantity sent from India were produced in the Island, the supply and demand remaining as they are, the price would not fall, and the consumer would not be benefited. Whether the fishermen would benefit would depend on the cost at which the additional supply was produced. If double the number of fishers were to catch only once and-a-half the present number of fish (and I believe this is more than could be expected), each fisherman's share would come to so much less that his individual profit might be less than when the fish cost less to salt but a larger number fell to his share.

When this increased cost of production is added to what seems to be anticipated, viz., a fall in price, the fisherman's chance of gain is, of course, smaller, and even the consumer may lose more as a tax-payer than he has gained as a consumer, for the cost of capture having increased, part of the amount formerly paid for salt must go to recoup this loss and cannot go to the consumer.

The scheme laid down in the paper under reply seems quite feasible if the fishing industry be one capable of a practically unlimited extension; if it be established that there are on our coasts large supplies of fish which are not utilized on account of the duty on salt, I think that the proposals now made should be carried out. Feeling confident, as I do, that the project could not have been started without satisfactory evidence as to the existence of these supplies, I am not disposed to accept without question the statements of the Mudaliyár and fishers, who deny the fact. I should, therefore, like to receive a copy or precis of the evidence by which the existence of the supply of fish is established. I will then be able thoroughly to investigate and confute the views above mentioned, and will also be able after enquiry to furnish, I hope, a reliable report on questions 3, 9, and 14, which seem to fall particularly within my Province.

I hope that this information will be sent to me as soon as possible, for already, owing to various causes, there has been a considerable delay in sending in my report.

I am, &c.,
F. R. ELLIS,
Assistant Government Agent.

Enclosure No. 1 in Enclosure No. 6.

From G. F. Kirthesinghe, Mudaliyár.

The preserving of fish is done in the following manner :—

1. It is salted in three different ways :—

(*a*) Large kinds of fish are cut into slices, and after the entrails are taken out they are washed, salted, and packed in packing cases. This process preserves the fish only for a day or two.

(*b*) Each of the pieces which were packed as above is taken out, salted, and packed again. This method of salting keeps the fish sound for about a month.

(*c*) Very small kinds of fish without the entrails being taken out, as well as the big kinds sliced, are salted with goraka (an astringent rind of a fruit) and are put into large pots, which are filled after 3 or 4 days with brine.* This preparation is done to preserve the fish for one or two years, care being taken to pour in brine occasionally as it diminishes in the pots. Dry fish is made by drying the fish three or four days in the sun after salting it. Very small fish is dried in the sun without salting.

2. Cannot be increased owing to the limited number of fish caught.

3. No; the fish so cured is secured in each person's premises until it is sent out for sale; consequently there is no necessity to set up public curing establishments.

4. Yes.

5. Salt earth is used, but not sea water.

6. Salting has decreased owing to the reduced number of fish caught.

8. Yes, particular places in the sea are claimed by particular persons only as regards drawing of nets.

9. Fish is caught in the following places :—

Pamunugama, Talahena, Munai, Pitipona, Duwa, Kerawalakkuda, Kudapoda, or Migomuwella. Ettukal, Palagatura, Porutota, and Kammalatota. There are about 275 boats used in the pursuit, and about 1,600 men are employed in it. The enterprize is not capable of further development.

10. See list annexed. The fisheries are injured by cattumaram people by their catching very small fish before they attain their full growth.

11. Supplied from their own funds.

12. Large kinds of fish are sold by auction at Kuttiduwa, Munnakkare, and Duwa, and the small kinds of fish when caught by net are sold on different places on the sea shore.

13. Their number has slightly increased.

14. The number of boats has increased slightly, and the size of the boats remains nearly the same.

List referred to.

Tóru of different kinds	Wauwáleyo	Kandrillo	Pahiudiyo
Kelawallu	Wanno	Hurullo	Potuparáwo
Kopparaw	Nárawo	Hirimęsso	Pęnno
Talapattu	O'ráwo	Sélawo	Ginnęṭiyo
Ęṭawallu	Kęsbęwo	Kanawo	Kanamaguruwo
Ęṭanaguluwo	Balayo	Láinęsso	Múrallu
Móru	Pannáwo	Kosso	Thondayo
Tumbayo	Wękęwo	Kumbaláwo	Súdayo
Węṭiyo	Galoluwo	Lawayo	Lággo
Kaṭṭáwo	Anjiláwo	Godayo	Isso
Maḍuwo	Kirilewo	Mondu	Hál-męsso
Guruwo	Ulawo	Anguluwo	Kárallo
Kabaraparáwo	Pulunno	Séri	
Rúgoḍuwo	Sáwálayo	Aluwęṭiyo	
Murallu	Kaṭuwallo	Kaliddiyo	

G. F. KIRTHESINGHE,
Mudaliyár.

Enclosure No. 2 in No. 6.

With reference to the questions about fisheries, there are present :—David Fernando, Police headman, Sea-street; Davido Perera, of Munakara; Suse Perera, of Kotakambu; W. David Fernando, of Sea-street; W. Costantinu Fernando, of Sea-street; W. Rodrigu Fernando, of Sea-street; W. Juan Fernando, of Sea-street; Suse Fernando, of Grand-street. They state :—

"For the last four or five years our income from fishing has diminished very much; it is about a third or a fourth of what it was.

"The number of boats and fishers has increased during the last four or five years.

"The decrease in income was not due to the increase of boats and fishers; the income has decreased because fewer fish are now caught than used to be caught.

"The cattumaram fishers now catch the small fish which used to give food to the large fish; the large fish, therefore, do not come as they get no food.

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* Brine is made with brackish water, salt and goraka. It is also made with salt-earth by dissolving it in brackish water, straining it, and afterwards adding goraka to it.

"Formerly, the cattumaram fishers had only one kind of net, which caught only large fishes; now, owing to an improvement, they catch both large and small. They are yearly improving their nets and making the meshes smaller.

"The Grand-street fishers fish with hooks; the Sea-street fishers fish with nets; the Grand-street fishers fish all the year round; the Sea-street fishers fish for six or seven months during the year in the sea.

"In the south-west monsoon fish cannot be caught in the sea with nets as the wind is contrary.

"The price of fish is now higher than it was six or seven years ago, but the take is so small that we make much less than we did. If we could increase the take and keep the price as it is we would be very well off indeed.

If salt is issued to you free will more fish be caught.—"More fish cannot be caught along the coast. We are trying our utmost to catch now, and can only catch a few. We could not catch more under any circumstances.

"We have never during our lives known fish thrown away or wasted. It is invariably salted or otherwise disposed of.

"We are of opinion that there are not very many fish in the sea, and that all that can be caught are caught.

"We are of opinion that if £1 a fish were offered the present catch could not possibly be doubled.

"We have never the least difficulty in getting salt, nor have we ever known fish lost or spoiled for want of salt, but if salt is very scarce we have sometimes had to pay a high price for it.

"If salt were issued free more persons might go to catch small fish, and so the supply might be increased, but by not more than one-fourth, or at most one-half.

"Our boats go so far from the coast as to be out of sight of land, and we believe there is no room for more fishers on this coast.

"The Grand-street fishers go out very far to sea, but we do not think that additional boats would catch anything like a proportionate increase of fish. [The Sea-street fishers are of a similar opinion, more especially as the places in which fish can be caught with a net are limited, and are fully occupied.]

"We cannot suggest any means by which the take of fish can be increased. Large fish are rarely caught in nets. They are generally taken with hooks.

XVI.—1883.

THE FLOODS OF 1883.

COPY OF A LETTER (AND PLAN)

FROM

THE RESIDENT ENGINEER, COLOMBO WATERWORKS,

SHOWING THE HIGHEST LEVELS REACHED BY THE FLOODS IN MAY, 1883, AT VARIOUS POINTS BETWEEN COLOMBO AND HANWELA.

Ordered by His Excellency the Governor to be Printed.

Colombo:
FRANK LUKER, ACTING GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1883.

THE FLOODS OF MAY, 1883.

The Resident Engineer, Colombo Waterworks, to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary.

No. 96.

Colombo Waterworks,
Colombo, 17th July, 1882.

Sir,—In reference to the floods of May last, and my letter No. 78 of the 21st May, I have the honor to forward, for the information of Government, a tracing of section between Colombo and Hanwela along the Dematagoda road as far as Wellampitiya, and thence along the Ratnapura road.

The section shows in black line the surface of the road, with the levels at intervals in black. The highest level of the flood of May 9th to 14th last, with the levels, is given in blue. In red are also given the levels of the flood of September, 1872.

The heights given are from actual levelled observations, and give the highest levels reached by the floods during their duration at the various points.

On the 10th of May, (1883) the late flood was at its height at Hanwela, following the heavy rains of the 7th, 8th, and 9th May, while at Colombo the river had only begun to rise. In the Colombo district the flood steadily rose till about mid-day on Saturday, the 12th, when it was at its highest, and on the morning of Sunday, the 13th, had lowered about 8 or 9 inches, while at Hanwela the water had begun to subside on the night of Thursday, the 10th, and by the Sunday morning had fallen 12 feet. Owing to the cessation of the rain after the 9th and 10th May the flood at once began to subside, and ran off quickly.

The levels of the May, 1883 flood given on the section are therefore the maximum height to which the flood rose at each point along the road as it passed down to the sea, but do not represent the actual line of incline of the water surface at any one time. As, for instance, when the flood at Hanwela was at its maximum on Thursday, May 10th, of about 138 feet as given on the section, or 38 feet above Government datum of mean sea level, at Colombo at the same time the level of the water at the Dematagoda canal bridge had only risen to about 5 to 6 feet above mean sea level, whereas at the time of maximum height at this point on Saturday, May 12th, the level was 11 feet 3 inches above mean sea level, while the water at Hanwela, having already fallen some 10 feet, was at a level of about 28 feet above mean sea level instead of the maximum height it had been, as shown on the section, of 38 feet.

I trust the information obtained may be of interest and service to the Government.

I am, &c.,
ARTHUR W. BURNETT.

XVII.—1883.

RETRENCHMENT.

DESPATCH

FROM

THE RIGHT HON. THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

EMBODYING OBSERVATIONS UPON

THE REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO ENQUIRE INTO THE FINANCIAL DEPRESSION EXISTING IN THE ISLAND.

Ordered by His Excellency the Governor to be Printed.

Colombo:
FRANK LUKER, ACTING GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1883.

RETRENCHMENT.

The Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY to His Excellency the Hon. A. H. GORDON, G.C.M.G.

Ceylon.
No. 357.

Downing Street,
1st November, 1883.

SIR,—I HAVE had for some time under my consideration the Report of the Select Committee of the Legislative Council of Ceylon appointed to inquire into the expenditure of the Colony, and the possibility of effecting any retrenchment in it, in view of the financial depression at present existing in the island.

No. 156, 14th April, enclosing copy of petitions respecting the proposal to abolish the Assistant Agency of Negombo.
No. 158, 14th April, enclosing Mr. Rámanáthan's dissent from some of the Committee's recommendations.
No. 159, 14th April, enclosing Memorial from Civil Service as to proposed reduction of salaries.
No. 180, 21st April, containing proposals for relieving the Government of part of the medical expenditure.
No. 206, 2nd May, enclosing copy of a letter from Mr. Blair as to proposals for reducing the education vote.
No. 234, 16th May, enclosing Mr. Dickson's scheme for re-organizing the Civil Service.

I have also carefully considered the able and exhaustive Despatch (No. 155 of the 14th of April) in which Sir J. Longden has submitted his views upon the various points contained in or connected with the Report.

2. In dealing with these papers, I shall include in my observations other Despatches from him which relate to the same subject, and can therefore be most conveniently disposed of at the same time. These Despatches are noted in the margin.

3. The main question at issue is in what way an equilibrium between the receipts and expenditure of the Colony can best be restored and maintained, and I shall address myself to this question in the first instance, reserving for a later part of this Despatch some notice of suggestions which have incidentally been made for the general improvement of the administration.

Depression temporary only

4. It appears to be generally anticipated that the present difficulties are likely to be temporary only, and that after the lapse of a few years the growth of new enterprizes will restore to Ceylon at least some measure of her past prosperity. What is now required, therefore, is to devise the means of meeting the deficit which, unless special measures be taken to prevent it, must in all probability be expected to burden the Colony for some time to come. In the words of the Committee "temporary relief in the present is the urgent requirement of the day."

Page 15 of print.

Amount of deficit to be met.

5. It is not easy, however, to determine what is the actual deficiency of revenue for which it is necessary to provide.

1. Committee's view.

In the second page of their report, the Committee state that, roughly speaking, the amount of retrenchment to be aimed at "as regards the present, may be taken at a sum of Rs. 500,000 required to ensure the Colony against deficit, leaving no margin available for irrigation and other works of improvement," and in the following paragraph they estimate that the Colony will incur a further expenditure of Rs. 400,000, so that the total amount of the deficit, according to their view, is Rs. 900,000.

Page 15 of print.

To meet this they expressly recommend only retrenchment to the amount of Rs. 397,740, and increased revenue to the amount of Rs. 201,650; but they further press strongly for a reduction of the military contribution.

2. Mr. Dickson's view.

Mr. Dickson, in his forcible memorandum dissenting from the general views of the Committee, has entered into greater detail with regard to the probable deficit, and he calculates that during the current year a deficit of Rs. 500,000 may be anticipated.

In 1884, Rs. 860,600; in 1885, Rs. 1,056,000, and in 1886, Rs. 1,110,000.

Page 23 of print.

3. The Governor's. Paragraph 16.

Turning to Sir J. Longden's Despatch, I fail clearly to understand what is the sum total of the deficit which he anticipates. He states that "the public expenditure authorized by law for the present year is Rs. 12,294,856, being less

"than the estimated revenue by Rs. 115,144, and if the expenditure could be kept "down to this figure, there would be no urgent necessity to provide additional resources." In other words, while allowing for the future growth of expenditure in connexion with the Government loans, Sir J. Longden hardly appears to expect a present deficiency of Rs. 500,000 due to falling revenue; whereas the relief which he hopes to gain by retrenchment and by re-adjustment of revenue amounts to Rs. 432,200, which he trusts may be supplemented by a reduction in the military expenditure.

Paragraph 69.

Deficit for 1883.

6. The present year is, however, so far advanced that the deficiency for 1883 has now been to a great extent ascertained, and at this late period there is no advantage in discussing the estimates which have been formed as to its amount. I can only trust that your Government has been insisting on the greatest economy being practised in the Public Service, and that it will not be found necessary to resort to the unsatisfactory expedient suggested by Mr. Dickson, viz., "to charge the interest for 1883 to the capital accounts of the railway and other works, except so far as any surplus from the sinking fund of the Kandy railway may meet the charge, and to raise special taxes to provide for it from 1884."

Page 25 of print.

As regards the following years, it would seem, according to the Committee's figures, that if the Government service is to be efficiently carried on, an additional sum, falling not very far short of a million of rupees, should be provided.

7. It is clear that recourse must be had both to a reduction of expenditure, and also to re-adjustment, and, in some degree, to an increase of taxation; but (excluding the question of the military contribution, to which I shall refer later,) I am of opinion that the efforts of the Government should be devoted at least as much to extending the sources of revenue as to further diminution of expenditure.

Increased taxation preferable to great retrenchment.

My reasons for taking this view are two-fold. In the first place, it is clear that while the imposition of new taxes need involve but little delay, the full result of measures of retrenchment cannot be attained until some considerable time has elapsed, and in a case like the present, where it is hoped that the depression may only be temporary, it is clear that the steps to be taken should be such as will produce an immediate effect.

Page 23 of print.

In the second place, Mr. Dickson has very clearly pointed out that the present difficulties have in great measure arisen from expenditure incurred primarily in the interest of the European part of the community, and it would seem but just that the present burden should fall at least as heavily upon them as upon the natives; but, as he shows, reduction of expenditure will affect the natives rather than the Europeans, for it is impossible to retrench in respect of charges on account of loans for railway and harbour works, and economy would therefore have to be practised chiefly in those branches of expenditure with which the native population are mainly concerned, as, *e.g.*, Civil Establishments, Hospitals, Education, Irrigation, &c. Increase of taxation, on the other hand, can be adjusted so as to impose upon each section of the community its fair share of the burden.

8. I will proceed to consider in detail the suggestions which have been made for reducing the expenditure before turning to consider the additions that may possibly be made to the revenue.

Withdrawal of 20 per cent. Page 3 of print.

The first proposal made by the Committee is that the 20 per cent. increase given a few years ago to the higher members of the Civil Service should be withdrawn in each case of promotion or vacancy.

Paragraphs 24 and 25 of Despatch.

I agree with Sir J. Longden in thinking that such a withdrawal would be neither just nor expedient; should the financial difficulties of the Colony hereafter prove very extreme, it might be found necessary to effect a general reduction of salaries throughout the service, as was done by means of a percentage in the case of the Bahamas some years ago; but I do not consider that it would be right to mulct certain members of the service only, to cause a feeling of soreness among the very men to whom the Government looks at such a time as the present for unusual energy, and seriously to damage the prospects of promotion for the junior officers; nor is the proposed measure calculated to give the immediate relief to the revenue which is required.

Governor's salary, page 3 of print, paragraphs 26-7 of Despatch.

Page 3 of print, paragraph 29 of Despatch.

9. I do not consider that the pay now given to the Governor is more than sufficient for the responsible and expensive post which he occupies, and I am not prepared to consent to the reduction under this head proposed by the Committee.

Secretariat.

Rs. 7,100.

10. As the proposed employment of native magistrates, to which I shall again allude, will facilitate the reduction of the number of Writers, no exception need be taken to the proposed saving of seven thousand one hundred rupees in the Secretariat.

Treasury, &c., pages 3 and 7 of print, paragraph 30 of Despatch. Rs. 15,000.

11. The offices of Treasurer and Collector of Customs are the subject of separate correspondence, and therefore need not be now considered in detail. It is, perhaps, safe to calculate on a saving of some fifteen thousand rupees under this head, but the amount of saving will entirely depend on the decision which may be finally arrived at with regard to these offices.

Western Province, pages 3, 4, of print, paragraphs 30, 31 of Despatch. Rs. 2,000.

12. The small reduction of two thousand rupees in respect of the staff of messengers, &c., in the Western Province, having already appeared on the estimates, cannot be again included in the calculation of possible savings.

The proposal to abolish the Assistant Agency of Negombo would involve, as I gather from the papers on the subject, great inconvenience to the residents in one of the most populous districts of the Island, and a loss to the revenue exceeding the amount which would be saved by the abolition.

Assistant Agency of Negombo.

I therefore concur with Sir J. Longden in thinking that retrenchment in this direction would be very inexpedient.

The question of giving further office assistance to the Government Agent is dealt with in separate correspondence relating to the offices of the Treasurer and Collector of Customs; my opinion is that instead of being given additional help, the Government Agent should be relieved of the extra work which he has been called upon to perform as Chairman of the Municipal Council.

13. The objections urged to the withdrawal of the Assistant Agent from Negombo seem to me to apply also to the proposed partition of the North-Central Province between the North-Western and Eastern Provinces.

North-Western and North-Central Provinces.

I have noted that in supporting the change, Sir J. Longden has stated that "there is no reason for supposing that any native interests will be imperilled by it in the slightest degree," and I have given full consideration to his opinion and to the fact that the whole Committee, with the exception of Mr. Dickson, have reported in favour of the abolition of the Province.

Page 4 of print, paragraph 32 of Despatch.

Still, the economy to be effected is comparatively small, and I have already stated that in my view it would be better to impose some slight additional taxation than to carry out reductions, which may possibly check such progress as Mr. Dickson shows to have been made in the Province lately under his charge.

Paragraphs 27-8-9, &c., of print.

It is true that the Province is thinly populated; but I am inclined to think that a large area inhabited by a scattered country population especially requires the presence in its centre of a high officer responsible only to the Central Government, and that the interests both of the natives and of the revenue would be likely to suffer by abolishing the Government Agency at Anurádhapura and entrusting that station to an officer of lower position and smaller experience.

Of the thirteen thousand rupees scheduled for saving under the North-Western and North-Central Provinces, four thousand eight hundred rupees are on account of the abolition of the Police Magistrate of Kalpitiya and Puttalam. As Sir J. Longden takes no objection to this step, it can be carried out, although I notice that Mr. Ráma-Náthan opposes it in the second paragraph of his memorandum. It is stated in the Governor's Despatch that the duties of this officer will be handed over to the Assistant Agent at Puttalam, whereas, according to the report of the Committee, his magisterial work at Kalpitiya will be undertaken by the District Judge of the somewhat distant station of Chilaw; in any case the arrangement has, I presume, received due consideration.

Rs. 13,000.
Rs. 4,800.
Magistrate of Kalpitiya and Puttalam, pages 4 and 9 of print.
Paragraph 44.

I agree with the Governor, that, if possible, the court, which is held at Márávila by the District Judge of Chilaw, should not be given up.

Police Court of Márávila.

14. The proposal to reduce the pay of the Government Agent of the Southern Province from sixteen thousand eight hundred rupees to fourteen thousand four hundred rupees can be carried out upon a vacancy. It had occurred to me that a similar saving might more advantageously have been effected by placing the pay both of the Northern and Southern Agencies at sixteen thousand rupees, inasmuch as Jaffna would seem to be much on a par with Galle, whereas the pay of the former Agency is at present equal to that drawn by the Government Agents of the more important Western and Central Provinces. I understand, however, that it is thought well to retain the pay of the Government Agent of the Northern Province at its present sum, as he holds a peculiarly independent position on account of the distance of Jaffna from the centre of Government, and also, because he must be considered the chief officer of the Tamil population.

Government Agent, Southern Province.
Paragraph 5 of print.
Paragraph 33 of Despatch.
Rs. 16,800.
Rs. 14,400.
Rs. 16,000.

15. I agree with Sir J. Longden that it would be unwise to reduce the District Judgeship of Batticaloa from the second to the third class of the service, or to transfer the Government Agent from that town to Trincomalee. I gather, however, that the object of the latter proposal was to facilitate the abolition of the Assistant Collectorship of Customs at Trincomalee; if this supposition is correct, the small saving to be thereby effected must be dispensed with.

Eastern Province, page 5 of print.
Paragraph 36 of Despatch.

16. Turning to the Public Works Department, it will be noticed that the question of the future salary of the Director of that Department has been settled by the decision separately arrived at, to combine hereafter the offices of Director of Public Works and Surveyor-General, on a salary of fifteen thousand rupees.

Public Works, page 5 of print.
Rs. 15,000.

I agree with Sir J. Longden that, in view of the present circumstances of the Colony, the fact that the most pressing public works have now in the main been carried out, and the extension of the contract system in connection with the upkeep of the roads of the island, the staff of the Public Works Department can be reduced, and Mr. Churchill's scheme of re-organization (which I have not thought necessary to refer to Sir C. Hutton Gregory, as Mr. Saunders has suggested in his memorandum,) can, as he proposes, be gradually brought into operation, provided that you are satisfied that the details do not require modification, as, for example, in respect of confining the ranks of the District Engineers to "trained engineers selected in England," and the somewhat inadequate proposal, as it appears to me, for giving quadrennial increments only to the district engineers and inspectors of roads.

Paragraph 37, &c., of Despatch.
Page 19 of print.

The retention of the North-Central Province will, I presume, involve also the retention of a provincial engineer for that Province.

Page 7 of print. Paragraph 39 of Despatch.

As regards the maintenance of roads, I quite agree with the Committee and with Sir J. Longden, that those lines of road which compete with the railway should not be maintained at a heavy expense, and am glad to find that Sir J. Longden considers a large reduction of expense can be made in this direction.

Rs. 10,000.

Rs. 50,736.

Rs 50,000.

Rs. 110,736.

On the whole it seems reasonable to look for a saving of ten thousand rupees on account of amalgamation of the offices of Surveyor-General and Director of Public Works, fifty thousand seven hundred and thirty-six rupees on account of re-organization of the Public Works staff as given in the report, and fifty thousand rupees on account of upkeep of roads, making a total of one hundred and ten thousand seven hundred and thirty-six rupees.

Survey Department, pages 7 and 20 of print.

Page 8 of print.

17. Under Survey Department, I would call your attention to the observations made in Mr. Saunders' memorandum as to the benefits which would result to the revenue if a regular land settlement in the Western Province were to be sanctioned. The point seems to be well worthy of consideration, if it has not already been fully considered, but the Local Government, I presume, would not be able to allow any fresh outlay on this account at the present time.

Postal. Paragraph 41 of Despatch.

18. The abolition of the two Postmasterships mentioned in the report having already been shown on this year's estimates cannot again appear in the calculation of possible reductions.

In the 69th paragraph of his Despatch, Sir J. Longden states that the recommendation of the Committee that the Colony be no longer allowed to carry foreign correspondence at a loss can only be brought into effect by withdrawing from the Postal Union, and he adds that he is slow to recommend such a step. It is true that advantages in the matter of foreign postage, which are paid for from the Colonial revenue, do not benefit the natives so much as the European residents; still I agree with the late Governor that such a step as withdrawal from the Postal Union should not be entertained, as it would appear to the general public to be a retrograde movement on the part of Ceylon.

Further, it would seem from recent correspondence between the Treasury and this office, setting forth the total loss to be charged to Ceylon on account of the conveyance of mails, that little or nothing would be saved by leaving the Union.

Queen's Advocate's Department. Page 8 of print. Paragraph 42. 8,698. 5,192.

19. Under the Queen's Advocate's Department, I will consent, as Sir J. Longden concurs, to the abolition of two of the Deputies to the Queen's Advocate, but it is right to point out that Mr. Ferdinands in his Report on the Criminal Statistics for 1882, throws doubt on the advisability of thus weakening the Department, and Mr. Burnside, before his return to the Colony, intimated his opinion that the legal judicial branches of the service had hardly received sufficient consideration at the hands of the Committee.

Page 20 of print.

I would further call your attention to Mr. Saunder's suggestions under this head, "that when vacancies occur in the Queen's Advocate's Department they should be filled by gentlemen in the Civil Service who have had a legal education in England, have been called to the English bar, and have had judicial experience in Ceylon." It appears to me that this suggestion may as well be further considered, and possibly be partially adopted, with a view to training civil servants for higher judicial offices.

The subject, however, is one which requires to be separately dealt with.

Judicial. Pages 8 and 9 of print. Rs 4,800. Paragraph 43 of Despatch. Page 20 of print. Page 19 of print.

20. The recommendation of the Committee to abolish the District Judgeship of Kegalla as a separate appointment, which will involve a saving of four thousand eight hundred rupees per annum, can be carried out, as Sir J. Longden is satisfied that it is practicable; but the arrangements to be made in connection with this step should be carefully watched, as the Government Agent of the Western Province has expressed himself so strongly against it.

Mr. Saunders, however, seems to admit that some economy may possibly be effected in regard to the appointment in question.

Under Police Courts I shall not allow for any immediate saving on account of the employment of native magistrates.

Registrar-General and Fiscal. Page 9 of print. Paragraph 45 of Despatch.

21. The Committee propose to amalgamate the offices of Registrar-General and Fiscal of Colombo; but as far as it is possible to judge without local experience, it would seem preferable, on grounds both of economy and efficiency, to adopt the alternative scheme suggested by Sir J. Longden, and to devise some arrangement for transferring to the respective Government Agents of Kandy and Colombo the duties of Fiscal at these two stations.

Such a transfer would, I presume, involve some addition to their office staff, and would furnish a further argument, if one were required, for relieving the Government Agent of Colombo from the municipal work with which he is now overweighted.

Education. Page 10 of print. Page 13 of print.

22. Under Public Instruction the Committee propose to effect a saving amounting, according to the schedule, to Rs. 138,000, the saving to be made partly by adopting a proposal of the late Director of Public Instruction for throwing upon the Municipalities and Local Boards, where they exist, the cost of maintaining the English and Anglo-vernacular Government schools within their limits, and partly by cutting down the nett expenditure of Government on education generally to Rs. 300,000.

The latter suggestion was made by Mr. Dickson, and supported by six other members of the Committee, but was opposed by four unofficial members, two of whom represent the native interests, and Mr. Rána-Náthan in his separate memorandum has strongly deprecated the reduction.

I presume the ground on which this sweeping retrenchment is supported is, that the annual sum of Rs. 300,000 is sufficient to carry out a good system of vernacular teaching, and that English education can well be left to private enterprize, provided that the central institutions of the Royal College and Normal School be duly maintained. Pages 39, 40 of print. 7.796

I cannot, however, but think, that the large reduction now proposed would be carried out only "at the risk (to quote the words of the Committee, page 15) of paralysing that excellent system which should in the best interests of the Colony be developed instead of being curtailed," and that if carried out immediately, it would involve breach of faith with the managers of grant-in-aid schools, who have been led to rely upon receiving help from public funds. It would, however, perhaps be well to warn those who are interested in education work in Ceylon, that if the financial difficulties of the Colony continue, it may be found necessary shortly to make reductions, which (to use the words of Mr. Dickson's motion) shall be "fairly distributed over the two systems of Government schools and grant-in-aid schools."

The proposal to hand over the English and Anglo-vernacular schools in towns to the Municipalities and Local Boards, giving them the option of maintaining them as grant-in aid schools, by which it is hoped to effect a saving of Rs. 25,000, may be carried out, as Sir J. Longden approves of it; though the poverty of the Municipalities in Ceylon, and the want of interest in them on the part of the local residents, which has more than once been shown and commented upon, leads me to fear that the change will not be beneficial from an educational point of view. Paragraph 50 of Despatch.

I am not, however, prepared to accept Sir J. Longden's suggestion for extending this new arrangement to vernacular schools situated in towns. Paragraph 53.

Apart from other considerations, I am not satisfied that the Municipalities can equitably be called upon to bear the cost of their vernacular schools. English schools may perhaps be considered a luxury of the towns, as opposed to the country districts; but the same argument can hardly be applied to schools in which the vernacular only is taught, and at present it appears to me desirable, that, whether in town or country, they should be charged against the general revenue of the island.

I agree with Sir J. Longden that the teachers in the Government English and Anglo-vernacular schools, who have a contingent right to pension, ought not to forfeit it owing to the proposed transfer of those schools to the local bodies. Paragraph 52

23. The Committee consider that "the general revenue should to some extent be relieved by throwing on the people of the country a considerable portion of the cost of public hospitals"; and that the burden of these institutions in the large towns should fall upon the local rates. Medical. Page 10 of print.

This suggestion has been carefully and clearly dealt with by Sir J. Longden, in his Despatch, No. 180, of the 21st of April, enclosing the hospital returns of the Island for 1882.

He proposes that a sum, amounting to Rs. 250,000, should be transferred from the general revenue to the local rates, being the cost, or a great part of the cost, of the maintenance of pauper patients in the ordinary Government hospitals.

In towns, where there are Municipalities, he suggests that no patient should be admitted into hospital without a ticket from the Chairman, or an unofficial member of the Municipal Council, certifying that the patient is poor, that he is an inhabitant of the town, and that the town will pay for him; that the same course should be followed where there are Local Boards, and that in other districts the assessments made for the maintenance of minor roads might be charged with the support of paupers of the district, who are sent to hospital by the Chairman of the District Committees, so that as far as possible all pauper patients would be legally chargeable upon one or other of the towns or districts.

I readily admit that (as Mr. Dickson has pointed out) there are few, if any, countries in which so much has been done, as in Ceylon, in the way of providing the natives with hospitals, and I am ready to admit also that the late Governor's scheme, as detailed above, would probably distribute the burden of medical relief more fairly than the present system, under which it is possible that the large towns derive a disproportionate share of the benefits of the common expenditure. Still I cannot assent to a change which involves the production of a certificate by every patient wishing to enter a hospital. It is only of late years that the natives have begun to appreciate the value of these institutions, and of the scientific medical treatment to be obtained in them; and I cannot but think that they would be deterred from availing themselves of these advantages by a provision of the kind suggested in the Governor's Despatch. If it is thought desirable, by some means or other, to throw the burden of the ordinary hospitals mainly upon the local rates, the cheapest and simplest plan would apparently be to charge each town or district with the cost of its own local hospital (except the salary of the medical officer in charge); but the question requires very great consideration, as it seems doubtful Page 26 of print.

whether the machinery for raising local rates, especially in country districts, is adequate for the purpose. In the last preceding paragraph I pointed out that the past experience of Municipalities in Ceylon was not such as to lead the Government to expect satisfactory results from imposing fresh burdens upon them, and if the change can only be supported on the ground of economy, it would seem desirable, before adopting it, carefully to consider whether other methods of adjusting the revenue and expenditure would not press less hardly upon the native population.

Without any re-arrangement of the kind suggested, I gather from the 23rd paragraph of Despatch No. 180, of the 21st of April, that Sir J. Longden anticipates in future years a reduction of Rs. 100,000 upon the medical vote for the current year. As the calculations of the Committee were apparently based on the estimate for 1883, this sum, or part of it, should, I presume, be included in the computation of possible retrenchment.

Police and Prisons, pages 10-11 of print.

24. Under Police the Committee recommend that "the Inspector-General of Police undertake, upon vacancy, the duties of Inspector-General of Prisons in addition to his own duties and without increae of salary."

Page 21 of print. Paragraph 56 of Despatch.

This proposal is warmly supported by Mr. Saunders, who speaks from experience, having held the double office for nearly a year; and Sir J. Longden states that, in his opinion, an energetic officer could discharge the duties of both appointments.

If the present Inspector-General of Police were called upon to undertake also the inspection of the Colonial Prisons, I consider that he would be fairly entitled to some additional remuneration on account of the increase of work; and I am not satisfied that, presuming the present arrangements with regard to the police to be continued, the proposed amalgamation is in all respects a satisfactory measure.

Neither trouble nor expense have been spared of late years to improve the prison system of Ceylon, and the course of improvement might be checked if the inspection of the gaols were handed over to an officer, who, I presume, has no technical knowledge of the subject, and who is entrusted with the administration of another most important department.

As matters stand, I should have thought it preferable to adopt the plan in force in the Straits Settlements and Mauritius, and entrust the inspection of Prisons to the head of the Convict Establishment, although such an arrangement would not involve so great a saving as would otherwise be effected.

If, however, further changes with regard to the Police, which are discussed in a later paragraph (paragraph 43) of this Despatch, are considered feasible, I shall raise no further objection to the Committee's proposal. In any case it will be possible to economise on the present establishment.

Paragraph 57.

The question of the possibility of reducing the number of police stations is one which must be left entirely to the discretion of the Local Government.

Railways, page 11 of print.

25. Under Railway Department the Committee state that they do not feel in a position to make any recommendations, but they notice that the decline in railway receipts is more serious than the fall in any other branch of the Colonial revenue.

Page 24 of print.

Seeing that the present difficulties of Ceylon are in great measure due to the charge incurred on account of the railways, and that, as Mr. Dickson states, there is no expectation of the Nanu-oya line paying even its working expenses, it appears to me that the management, working, and expenses of the lines ought to be most seriously revised with a view to effecting every economy that is consistent with the safety of the public, and if it is thought that adequate inquiry cannot be made by those already on the spot, I shall be prepared, if your Government thinks fit, to select a railway expert from this country thoroughly to investigate and report upon the subject; it would be well, however, if the expense of a special mission could be avoided.

The present dual administration of the railway to which the Committee allude has been discussed in previous correspondence, and a reform may possibly be facilitated by the retirement of the Traffic Manager.

Pensions, page 11 of print.

26. Under Pensions the Committee make a recommendation for abolishing the special additions made in the computation of pensions of members of the Survey and Public Works Department. The point is apparently not dealt with in Sir J. Longden's Despatch, and requires separate report and consideration. It should be treated rather as a matter of principle than as a means of economy.

Revenue Services, pages 11 and 12 of print. Paragraph 58 of Despatch. Page 21 of print.

27. Under Revenue Services I see no objection to the small economy of Rs. 3,000 in the matter of advertising land sales recommended by the Committee and endorsed by the Governor, although Mr. Saunders seems to doubt its advisability.

Administration of Justice, page 12 of print.

28. Under Administration of Justice the Committee make five suggestions, which are approved by the Governor.

Three of these appear to have been embodied in the draft of the Criminal Code, and the other two, viz., recommendations 3 and 5, will no doubt receive further consideration from your Government in connexion with that Code.

The Committee estimate that a saving of Rs. 20,000 can be effected under this head, but Sir J. Longden was confident that improvement in the system of criminal justice would lead to a reduction in expense of exactly double that amount. It may possibly be more prudent to rely on the smaller estimate. Paragraph 59 of Despatch.

29. Transport shows a small saving of Rs. 750, approved by the Committee. Transport, page 12 of print; paragraph 60 of Despatch.

30. This completes the consideration of the schedule of definite reductions recommended by the Committee; and according to the modifications which have now been suggested, partly with a view to preserving the efficiency of the Service, and partly in order to frame a prudent and moderate estimate, the figures will stand as follows:— Given at page 4 of print.

	Rs.
Secretariat	7,100
Treasury and Customs, say	15,000
North-Western and North-Central Provinces ...	4,800
Southern	2,400
Public Works, Roads, and Surveyor-General ...	110,736
Queen's Advocate	7,000
District Courts	4,800
Registrar-General and Fiscal	15,200
Public Instruction	25,000
Police and Prisons, say	9 000
Revenue Services	3,000
Administration of Justice	20,000
Transport	750

Giving a total of Rs 224,786 against Rs. 397,646 estimated by the Committee, and Rs. 312,203 estimated by Sir J. Longden. Total reductions, as given on page 43 of print.

Allowance must be made for the time which will necessarily elapse before the reduction can be brought fully into operation, and it would probably not be wise to count upon a larger saving in the coming year than one-third of the amount specified above, *i.e.*, Rs. 74,928.

To this can be added (if the view which I have adopted in the latter part of the 23rd pararaph is correct), a sum of (say) at least Rs. 50,000 on account of hospitals, making a total of reduction on the ordinary services of the Colony in the coming year of Rs. 124,928.

31. Excluding railways, on which account no definite estimate of any possible saving can of course be made, until careful inquiry has been instituted, as proposed in paragraph 25, there appears to be no item of expenditure still to be considered, with a view to retrenchment, except that of the military contribution. Military contribution.

I shall not now attempt to discuss the history of this complicated question, but will simply state that I agree with the conclusions arrived at by the Committee in their temperate and clear summary of the case. I am satisfied that, under the present circumstances, the Colony cannot afford to continue the payments hitherto annually made under this head, and I am in communication with the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury and the War Office, with a view to urging, at any rate, a temporary reduction of a considerable amount. I should have been glad if it had been found possible to diminish the number of troops now stationed in the island, but this the late Governor has stated that he is unable to recommend. I shall hope to have the advantage of your opinion on this important matter, as soon as you have had an opportunity of examining it on the spot and in consultation with the Executive Council. Pages 14 and 15 of print. Paragraph 70 of Despatch.

When I have ascertained the views of the other departments concerned, I shall address you further on the subject, and in the meantime, I shall include in my calculation of possible retrenchment, a minimum of Rs. 240,000 under this head, bringing the total amount up to Rs. 364,928.

32. I now leave the expenditure side and turn to consider additions which may possibly be made to the revenue. Possible additions to Revenue.

The Committee, with the exception of Mr. Dickson, have unanimously adopted a scheme suggested by Mr. Halliley, which by slightly raising the duty on imported grain by substituting weight for measurement in levying the duty, and by imposing a tax upon kerosine oil, is estimated to add to the revenue a sum of Rs. 201,650. [It may be noticed in passing that there is apparently a slight inaccuracy in the figures in paragraph 9 of Mr. Halliley's letter, a charge of 30 cents for 100 lbs. on paddy being equal to an increase on the old tariff of ½ cent per bushel or 45 lbs., not 1 cent as stated]. Views of Committee Page 13 of print.

Sir J. Longden accepts the change in the mode of levying the duty, by which he estimates a gain to the revenue of Rs. 10,000, and would impose a duty on kerosine and certain other imported articles, thereby providing an additional sum of Rs. 110,432, but he is averse to any increase of the duty on imported rice. Governor's views, paragraph 20-1 of Despatch.

Mr. Dickson is prepared to go further than either Sir J. Longden or his fellow members of the Committee in increasing taxation; he would raise Rs. 500,000 by "additional import duties" and Rs. 357,000 by additional export duties, but Mr. Dickson's views. Pages 25, 26.

Page 25.

he would leave the duties on grain "undisturbed, except as to method of collection by weight instead of measure." I shall now consider these respective views.

Export duties, page 26.

33. Mr. Dickson proposes the increase in export duties, or rather the imposition of duties on all exports, including native produce, with a view to meeting in great measure the charge for hospitals. He states that when formerly imposed with a view to paying for the Kandy railway, they were found not "to place Ceylon produce at a disadvantage as compared with other countries"; that they would fall on the classes which chiefly benefit by the public hospitals, and that the principle of levying an export duty has been conceded in the case of estates held by Europeans.

I am not prepared to admit the last argument; the export duty on coffee was devised simply as a convenient means of collecting a special rate which had been in existence for some years, and it bears little or no analogy to a new export duty imposed on the community at large for the purpose of aiding the general revenue. I prefer to rely on import duties only.

Import duties.

34. Under the head of import duties it is necessary to consider, first, Mr. Halliley's suggestion for very slightly raising the duty on imported grain. The proposed increase is 3 cents per bushel on all grain excepting paddy, and ½ cent per bushel on paddy.

In favour of this very small increase of duty, it is to be observed that it would fall, not on the agricultural classes, but on the Tamil immigrants and the inhabitants of the towns, who, according to the report of the Grain Tax Commission appointed in 1877, would seem to be well able to bear it.

Further, the increase is so inconsiderable, that I am assured it would practically not affect the price of food: if it were otherwise, it is to be presumed that the native members of Council, who formed part of the Committee and signed the report, would have raised some objection to the proposal.

There is, however, so much objection to the taxation of imported food that I could not consent to this mode of raising a revenue unless other courses had proved ineffectual.

Paragraph 20 of Despatch.

The substitution of weight for measurement in the collection of the duty should be carried out, effecting an addition, according to the Governor's estimate, of some Rs. 10,000.

35. As regards duties upon other imports than grain, Mr. Dickson states that "the tariff could certainly be revised so as to yield Rs. 500,000 in addition to the present duties on imports, and it would not be severely felt." If this is the case, it may be assumed that an increase estimated to produce any less amount would not have the effect which the late Governor dreads, of checking trade.

Paragraph 69 of Despatch.

I leave to your Government to settle the details of this increase, which I presume can be carried out without encouraging illicit importation of articles from India, and I take for my present purpose Rs. 300,000 purely as the minimum sum to be derived from increased import duties.

36. If to the figures given above on account of retrenchment, viz., Rs.364,928, be added 10,000 rupees on account of the change in the method of collecting the import duties on grain, and 300,000 rupees on account of increased duties on other imports, the total present relief to the revenue amounts to Rs. 674,928. This sum falls short of the deficit which Mr. Dickson estimates in 1884, viz., Rs. 860,600, and still more of the million rupees which was stated earlier in this Despatch as the sum roughly to be aimed at.

I trust, however, that in some of the details given above the actual results may prove more favourable than the moderate anticipations which have been formed, and I think it well that for the ensuing year, at any rate, no further steps should be taken than those indicated above, unless it be in regard to the stamp duties to which I have referred in the succeeding paragraph. If these measures are subsequently found inadequate, further additions to taxation can be considered, and retrenchment must be enforced in the matter of education and hospitals, and in other directions.

I shall look also eventually to decrease in railway expenditure, and in course of time further instalments of the reductions which have been specified in preceding paragraphs will fall due.

37. Before leaving the subject of the finances of the Colony, I wish to call your attention to one item of revenue, viz., the stamp duties, which for want of exact information, could not be included in the previous calculation of ways and means.

Stamp Duties.

The late Governor in the 69th paragraph of his Despatch states, "stamp duties may, I think, be fairly imposed or increased on legal documents used in all civil cases in the Gansabhâwas, as well as in the higher courts," but neither in his Despatch nor in the Committee's report is there any further reference to the question, whether some appreciable addition might not be made to the revenue under the general head of *Stamps*.

I understand that these duties in Ceylon are low, as compared with the English or Indian standards, and that they might be revised in the interests of the revenue without unduly pressing on any class of the community.

As regards judicial stamps, I presume that the rates fixed in connexion with the civil courts of the Colony (excepting the Gaṇsabháwas) might be raised without making legal proceedings unduly expensive; it is reasonable, as the Governor points out, that the cost of the administration of justice in civil matters should fall upon those who take advantage of it; and careful inquiry should be made into the cost of these courts as compared with the amount raised by judicial stamps, so as to ascertain whether law proceedings can be fairly taxed more highly than they are at present.

It was decided some short time ago not to impose any fees in respect of the petty cases tried before the Village Tribunals, and I am not inclined now to reverse that decision, seeing that in any case but a trifling amount could be derived from this source.

The scale of duties on licenses, bonds, articles, warrants, and similar documents, is apparently capable of revision with a view to abolishing exemptions in some cases, and raising the standard of payment in others.

The duties on registration of documents affecting titles to land require to be carefully watched, and if it be found that the expenses to Government of land registration exceeds the amount derived from the stamps, it may be found desirable to raise the charges under this head.

The testamentary and probate duties, again, require consideration. The probate duties especially, are, I understand, very low, and the people of Ceylon appear also to be exempt from taxes on legacy or succession.

The details of this question are of course such as can only be duly investigated in the Colony, and I shall be glad if you will cause them to be carefully examined in order to ascertain whether some such revision as I have briefly indicated may be found possible.

38. In the third paragraph of this Despatch, I stated that certain administrative changes had been suggested in Ceylon which might be considered independently of the question of retrenchment, though connected with and bearing upon it, and I now propose to advert very shortly to the two most important of these recommendations. The first is that natives should be more extensively employed than at present in the Government service; the second that the Colony should be redivided "for administrative purposes into three Provinces corresponding with the division of races, viz., Tamils, Kandyans, and low-country Siṇhalese."

Administrative proposals.

Page 9 of print.

Page 5 of print.

39. As regards the general principle that the natives of the Colony should be encouraged to enter the Government service, there can only be one opinion, and it has already been noticed that the effect of throwing open the cadetships to public examination in England has been, as Sir J. Longden points out, practically, though unintentionally, to exclude the natives from the Civil Service proper.

Employment of natives.

Paragraph 65 of Despatch.

It will probably be found better, instead of making any sweeping change, to follow generally the suggestions of the Committee, and reserve in future for natives some few of the minor appointments now held by cadets, gradually introducing them as Sir J. Longden proposes, as the present cadets are absorbed in the ordinary course of promotion.

Compare Mr. Ráma-Náthan's memorandum, Mr. Saunders' remarks, page 19 of print, and Mr. Dickson's memorandum of 6th February. Paragraph 65 of Despatch.

The only point on which I feel some doubt is whether instead of appointing natives to rural magistracies, as suggested by the Committee, it would not be better to employ them as magistrates or office assistants at the larger stations, where they would receive the guidance of the higher European officers. Such appears to be the basis of that part of Mr. Dickson's scheme of re-organization, which relates to the further employment of natives; and his suggestion to the Committee, that a native Office Assistant should be empolyed at the Mátalé Kachchéri (page 9 of report) indicates the manner in which the experiment can probably be best tried. The question, however, is one of which the details must be decided mainly by local experience.

Memorandum of 6th February, paragraph 13.

40. The proposal to redivide the island for administrative purposes into three Provinces divided according to race has been expanded by Mr. Dickson into a general scheme of reorganization, which has been forwarded and reported upon by Sir J. Longden in his Despatch, No. 234, of the 16th of May. The latter also considers the desirability of redistributing the Provinces in paragraphs 66, 67, 68 of his Despatch containing the report of the Committee. In his memorandum appended to the report of the Committee (page 27 of print), Mr. Dickson well states that "to shift the administrative centre backwards and forwards in an Oriental country is very dangerous, it unsettles the minds of the people, and impresses them with a feeling of uncertainty as regards the character and determination of their rulers."

Re-division of island according to race.

For this very reason it appears to me that a sweeping change of the kind suggested needs to be justified by evidence that the system proposed to be altered is either radically bad in principle or ineffective in practice, and I fail to see that either of these charges can be sustained against the present organization of Ceylon, while, if the financial results be taken into consideration, it is not clear that any great economy would be effected by the change.

41. These are the general objections to be taken to a scheme of this kind, but Mr. Dickson has worked out his suggestions so clearly and fully that they deserve, at any rate, careful consideration, and I do not feel satisfied that they have

Mr. Dickson's scheme.

been sufficiently appreciated. Following the Indian system, Mr. Dickson proposes to have three Commissionerships, corresponding to the three different races, and under them districts presided over by district agents. In one sense his scheme is open to the criticism that it increases centralization, for he substitutes three Commissioners for seven Government Agents; in another sense it may be said rather to decentralize, for under it the unit of administration would be the District instead of the Province, and the District Agent would be an officer of greater power and responsibility than the Assistant Government Agent is at present. Taking this latter view, the geographical difficulties pointed out by the late Governor lose some of their force, the centres of administration would be more numerous than at present, and the duty of the Commissioner would be not, so to speak, to rule from a distance, but to constantly visit and inspect a series of district capitals. In spite, however, of much that may be urged in its favour, I am of opinion that the scheme possesses no advantages sufficient to outweigh the general objections stated above, and that the desirability of accurately mapping out a country according to race may easily be exaggerated. It is also open to criticism on more special grounds.

As Ceylon is a Crown Colony, it seems undesirable to give as much power to any of the provincial officers as would be placed in the hands of the Commissioners, who would apparently to a great extent usurp the functions of the Colonial Secretary. Further, considerable local irritation would, as Mr. Douglas points out, be probably caused by the change, and the prospects of the Civil Service would be injured. It would be difficult to carry it out for some time to come without affecting the position of existing officers, and the people would probably be slow to understand the position of the District Agents, and would complain of greater difficulty in laying their grievances before one of the three Commissioners than they now have in referring to one of the seven Government Agents.

42. It is part of Mr. Dickson's scheme to combine in the same hands, to a greater extent than at present, administrative and magisterial duties; he wishes apparently that the higher Ceylon officers should hold the position of the Indian Collector Magistrates; but even if such a course would strengthen the hands of Government at the present time, I could not consent to a step which appears to me to involve the extension of an undesirable principle, viz., the union in the same hands of executive and judicial powers.

43. There are, however, two recommendations contained in his memorandum, which should be very carefully considered by your Government, and it appears to me that they might be adopted, much to the advantage of the public, irrespectively of the rest of his scheme.

Police to be placed under Government Agents.

The first of these is that the Police should be placed under the control of the provincial authorities. The amount of serious crime which has been rife in the Colony of late years seems to show that the Police organization has hardly been satisfactory, and it certainly appears to be an anomalous arrangement that the Government Agent, who is responsible for the security and good order of his Province, should have no control over the paid Police, and that these latter should work "independently of and in departmental antagonism to" the village headmen.

Paragraph 9 of memorandum.

The faults of the present system are summed up by Mr. Dickson in the words, "Division of authority in the control of the Police of the country gives encouragement to lawlessness, and is a constant source of weakness."

To obviate these defects, I should be glad if you would consider whether it might not be possible, while retaining the present constitution of the force, to bring the Police of each Province more closely under the authority of the Government Agent, who would utilise them at his discretion in connection with the village headmen for the maintenance of order, and especially for the detection and prevention of crime. Whenever it might unfortunately be necessary, as in the case of serious riots, for the Police to act as an armed force for the preservation of the public peace, the Inspector-General or some other high officer of Police, would, as at present, remain responsible, and in all matters of promotion and internal administration the Inspector-General would retain his present powers; but as his ordinary duties would consist mainly in inspecting the force stationed in each Province, he might find time for also inspecting the Prisons, as suggested by the Committee (a point to which allusion has been made in the 24th paragraph of this Despatch.) Should, however, any re-arrangement of the Police duties be decided upon, it should be made clear to Mr. Campbell that the change is not intended to reflect in any way upon his personal management of the force.

Revenue officers to account direct to Treasury. Paragraph 10.

44. The second recommendation, which I should be glad to see, if possible, adopted, is that the collectors of revenues in each district should account direct to the Central Treasury. In Mr. Dickson's scheme these collectors would be the District Agents, "and would in all matters of account be directly under the financial authorities in Colombo"; under the present system the same course might be adopted with the Assistant Government Agents, who at present, as I understand, send in their accounts to the head of the Province, merely, according to Mr. Dickson, in order that the totals may be introduced into the accounts of the Province.

If they were to account direct to the Central Treasury, it is reasonable to suppose that much unnecessary correspondence would be avoided, and that the time of the Government Agents would not be taken up to such an extent as at present with unimportant details. Paragraph 7 of memorandum.

45. I do not consider it necessary further to discuss the details of Mr. Dickson's scheme of re-organization, though it is possible that hereafter some of his other suggestions, in addition to those which have been noticed, may prove worthy of adoption ; and I will now only, in conclusion, invite the careful attention of your advisers and yourself to the opinions expressed in this Despatch, and express my hope that they may be carried into effect at an early date.

I have, &c.,
DERBY.

XVIII.—1883.

SUPPLY BILL, 1884.

REPORT of a SUB-COMMITTEE of the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL appointed to report upon the Bill intituled "An Ordinance for making provision for the Contingent Services for the year 1884."

Ordered by the Legislative Council to be Printed.

Colombo:

FRANK LUKER, ACTING GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1883.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Legislative Council, dated 12th December, 1883.

Resolved,—That the following gentlemen be appointed a Sub-Committee to consider and report upon the Bill intituled:

"An Ordinance for making provision for the Contingent Services for the year 1884."

The Hon. Sir J. DOUGLAS, K.C.M.G., Colonial Secretary.
The Hon. R. W. D. MOIR, Acting Auditor-General.
The Hon. F. R. SAUNDERS, Government Agent, Western Province.
The Hon. J. VANLANGENBERG,
The Hon. P. RÁMA-NÁTHAN, } Unofficial Members.
The Hon. J. L. SHAND,

SUPPLY BILL, 1884.

REPORT.

THE Sub-Committee appointed by the Legislative Council to consider and report on the Bill intituled "An Ordinance for making provision for the Contingent Services for the year 1884," regret that owing to the very recent arrival of the Secretary of State's Despatch on the report of the Retrenchment Committee, they have found it impossible to embody in their report all the recommendations made by the Secretary of State, but they trust no opportunity will be lost of giving effect to the various economies suggested whenever the occasion may arise.

No. 1.—ESTABLISHMENTS.

I.—CIVIL.

SECRETARIAT.

It has been deemed possible to dispense with the services of two Writers, and the number has consequently been reduced from twelve to ten.

TREASURY.

To relieve the Treasurer, who will undertake from 1st January next the office of Chairman of the Colombo Municipality, of the details of the routine work which would occupy his time to an undesirable extent, an Office Assistant will be required: the Municipal Council will be asked to bear a moiety of the salary, and the balance Rs. 2,250 will be charged to this branch of the service.

PROVINCIAL AGENCIES.

The estimates for the administration of the Western, North-Western, Southern, Eastern, and Northern Provinces remain almost similar to those of last year. Under the Central Province a new item appears of Rs. 1,000 for "adjusting deposit accounts, Badulla," and pending decision as to a general forest policy, the Assistant Forester in the North-Central Province has been temporarily replaced by a second Forester, effecting a saving in the estimate of Rs. 1,500. The above are the only items which appear to require remark in reference to the Provincial Agencies.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

It is proposed to supplement the large saving effected in the working of this department last year by a further reduction of the number of Superintending Officers from forty-three to forty, which will cause a corresponding diminution in the expenditure of the department of Rs. 8,230.

CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT.

The salary of the Collector of Customs has been reduced from Rs. 14,400 to Rs. 12,000, and instead of a Deputy Collector at Rs. 9,600, another Landing Surveyor at Rs. 4,500 will be employed. The appointment of Warehouse-keeper has also been abolished, and the duties of this office will, in future, be fulfilled by the Head Clerk; these alterations will effect a saving of Rs. 12,500, which, however, is Rs. 5,100 less than the saving which would be effected by the adoption of the recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee, without taking into account the salary of the Assistant Treasurer, which is fixed at Rs. 4,500 a year. In other respects the estimated cost of this establishment is nearly similar to that of last year.

HARBOUR DEPARTMENT.

The Sub-Committee consider that the trade of the port of Colombo justifies the increased expenditure of Rs. 19,085 borne on the estimates for pilotage, boat services, and the expenses of the harbour tug "Active," taken over from the Breakwater.

POST OFFICE.

The further development of the Money Order system, and the introduction of the Post Office Savings Banks—works which promise to carry such material benefit to the people of the Island—require an increased vote of Rs. 1,800 for the management of the Head Office.

TOTAL COST OF CIVIL ESTABLISHMENTS.

The estimated total cost of Civil Establishments—Rs. 2,052,276·51—compared with the estimate for the current year—Rs. 2,054,949·75—shows a decrease of Rs. 2,673·24, which would have been considerably greater had it not been for the increased expenditure of the Master Attendant's Department in Colombo, which, being an index of increasing trade, the Sub-Committee cannot but regard as a matter for congratulation.

II.—JUDICIAL.

The estimated expenditure for the working of the Supreme and District Courts of the Island is but slightly altered.

Under the heading "Police Court, Dimbula," a saving of Rs. 750 appears through this magistracy having reverted to the Civil Service, and an additional clerk is asked for at the Police Court, Mátara, on a salary of Rs. 500.

Registration Department.

The vote in this department will be lessened by Rs. 9,600 on account of the amalgamation of the office of Registrar-General with that of Fiscal.

Loan Board.

It is proposed to dispense with the services of the Secretary to the Loan Board and to entrust the performance of the duties of this office to the Office Assistant to the Treasurer.

IV.—PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

The increase in the number of pupils attending the Royal College, partially owing to the closing of St. Thomas' school, necessitates an addition to the staff of the establishment, to meet the expense of which you are asked to increase the vote by Rs. 2,700.

The Sub-Committee also has pleasure in announcing that Government are taking steps to give practical effect to agricultural education, and feel that you will willingly accede to the vote of Rs. 1,000 for this purpose.

VI.—POLICE.

Some of the smaller rural police stations having been closed, and a reduction having been made in the police force stationed in the towns of Galle and Kandy, the Sub-Committee are enabled to record a reduction in the vote taken for this service by Rs. 8,000.

No. 2.—PENSIONS, RETIRED ALLOWANCES, AND GRATUITIES.

The death of Halangoḍa Ratemahatmaya, of Dumbara, reduces the vote required under this heading by Rs. 666·66.

SERVICES EXCLUSIVE OF ESTABLISHMENTS.

Revenue Services and Administration of Justice (exclusive of establishments) do not call for comment, the votes which you are asked to assent to being nearly the same as those taken last year.

No. 8.—HOSPITALS AND SANITATION.

In introducing the Supply Bill, the Lieutenant-Governor pointed out that a probable saving of Rs. 72,000 under this heading of the public services would be effected. An item—Rs. 36,192—for Medicines, Rent, Transport, and Miscellaneous charges, had, it appears, been unfortunately omitted from the original estimates, and the probable saving is, therefore, reduced to Rs. 35,000. The result is, nevertheless, one for congratulation.

No. 9 A.—POLICE SERVICES.

The Sub-Committee consider that in the item "uniform" it will be possible to reduce the vote taken last year by Rs. 5,000.

No. 9 B.—PRISON SERVICES.

The prison at Mullaittívu has been done away with, and the prisoners from this locality are now sent to Vavúṇiyaṇ-Vilánkulam. A slight decrease in the cost of dieting prisoners is now observed generally over the Island.

No. 12.—CONVEYANCE OF MAILS AND POSTAL SERVICES.

In future, loss on mails to London will be Rs. 16,800 instead of Rs. 30,000, but as arrears of former years have to be adjusted, you are asked to vote the larger sum this year.

No. 13.—WORKS AND BUILDINGS.

The erection of a new Kachchéri at Puttalam, at a cost of Rs. 26,140, which is pronounced by the Director of Public Works to be a work of absolute necessity, is the only new building of any importance.

No. 14.—ROADS, STREETS, BRIDGES, AND CANALS.

The Sub-Committee recommend the vote of Rs. 10,000 for extending the Ruwanwella-Bulatkohoṭuwa road, which will be principally expended upon bridging the first mile.

The Sub-Committee also recommend that Rs. 100,000 should be voted on account of the restoration of Kalawewa and the Yódi-ela, on the understanding that the vote be conditional on the full amount of the estimate now in course of preparation for this great work not exceeding Rs. 400,000. To such an expenditure the Committee would not object, but in the event of the estimate exceeding Rs. 400,000, the question should again be submitted to Council for reconsideration before the work is proceeded with. The Sub-Committee think it desirable that the balance required for the completion of this work (if it is undertaken) should be raised by loan.

No. 16.—INTEREST.

Increase on Breakwater loan	...	Rs. 144,730
Interest on Waterworks loan	...	„ 140,000

No. 18.—MILITARY EXPENDITURE.

The Sub-Committee feel that the reduced contribution to the Imperial military chest of Rs. 240,000, which they are now empowered to estimate, will be received by the Legislative Council with great satisfaction.

To His Excellency the Governor, who has contributed in a large degree towards securing this result, and to the various public bodies which have unremittingly urged this reduction, the thanks of the Colony are due, but the Sub-Committee trust that, acknowledged as it is by all, that the military contribution exacted by the Imperial Government is still disproportionate to the requirements and revenue of the Island, while this reduction is accepted thankfully as an earnest of better things to come, no effort may be abated to secure further concessions.

No. 23.—RAILWAY SERVICES.

Provision is made under this heading for the working of the Hatton section of the Nánu-oya Extension for the last seven months of the year.

J. DOUGLAS.
R. W. D. MOIR.
F. R. SAUNDERS.
J. VAN LANGENBERG.
P. RA'MA-NA'THAN.
J. L. SHAND.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Colombo, 19th December, 1883.

XIX.—1883.

SUPPLEMENTARY SUPPLY BILL, 1883.

REPORT of a SUB-COMMITTEE of the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL appointed to report upon the Bill intituled "An Ordinance for making provision for the Supplementary Contingent Charges for the year 1883."

Ordered by the Legislative Council to be Printed.

Colombo:

FRANK LUKER, ACTING GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1883.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Legislative Council, dated 12th December, 1883.

Resolved,—That the following gentlemen be appointed a Sub-Committe to report upon the Bill intituled:

"An Ordinance for making provision for the Supplementary Contingent Charges for for the year 1883."

The Hon. Sir J. DOUGLAS, K.C.M.G., Colonial Secretary.
The Hon. W. D. WRIGHT, Treasurer.
The Hon. J. STODDART, Acting Surveyor-General.
The Hon. P. RÁMA-NÁTHAN, } Unofficial Members.
The Hon. F. M. MACKWOOD, } Unofficial Members.
The Hon. A. L. DE ALWIS, } Unofficial Members.

SUPPLEMENTARY SUPPLY BILL, 1883.

REPORT.

THE Sub-Committee appointed to report upon the Supplementary Supply Bill for 1883, having given their consideration to the various items therein included, report as follows:—

No. 1.—ESTABLISHMENTS.

CUSTOMS.

Western Province.

The new scale of Port Dues for the purpose of defraying the annual cost of the harbour improvements having been introduced on the 1st of January, 1883, it became necessary to add two clerks and a counter to the Customs Department. Their salaries aggregate Rs. 2,916·67. No vote was taken for this in the Supply Bill, 1883.

MASTER ATTENDANT, COLOMBO.

The staff of pilots attached to the Master Attendant's Office has, for some months past, been found to be inadequate to meet the growing wants of the port of Colombo. A junior pilot has therefore been engaged since March last at a salary of Rs. 2,400 a year; and the pay of two senior pilots has been slightly increased. These and other minor charges amount to Rs. 2,554·18.

MUSEUM.

The item of Rs. 1,861 for completing the maintenance of the Museum grounds is only a re-vote of a balance remaining unexpended from last year.

SERVICES EXCLUSIVE OF ESTABLISHMENTS.

No. 3.—REVENUE SERVICES.

AGENT, CENTRAL PROVINCE.

The collection of paddy tax in the Central Province has been rendered difficult in a few cases owing to the failure of the native coffee crop. The default on the part of these taxpayers has resulted in the sale of their lands, and in the purchase of them by Government. The Committee learn that the Government are dealing leniently with the defaulters, by enabling them, on payment of the tax, to repurchase the lands within a reasonable period.

CINNAMON.

Agent, Western Province.

The failure of the lessee of the Cinnamon Gardens to pay up the instalments of his rent has thrown upon the Government the necessity of taking over and managing the plantations. In addition to the sum of Rs. 1,910 scheduled for this purpose, a further sum of Rs. 500 is needed, making a total of Rs. 2,410.

STAMPS.

Commissioner of Stamps.

Rs. 4,000 for postal labels, and Rs. 4,500 for revenue labels are due to the Crown Agents in excess of the sum of Rs. 10,000 voted in the Supply Bill for 1883, namely, Rs. 3,000 for postal labels, Rs. 3,500 for revenue labels, and Rs. 2,000 for telegraph labels. It will be remembered that these charges appeared till last year under the heading "Miscellaneous Services."

No. 14.—ROADS, STREETS, BRIDGES, AND CANALS.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS.

The heavy rains during the last south-west monsoon damaged several bridges and culverts in the Western, North-Western, Northern, and Central Provinces. Some of these works have been restored at a total cost of Rs. 21,840.

No. 15.—MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES.

TREASURER.

Rs. 2,240 was the cost incurred in England for printing the Penal and Criminal Procedure Codes preparatory to their being laid before the Legislative Council.

In the Supply Bill for 1882, a vote of Rs. 6,000 was taken to obtain the services of a skilled Forester from India to visit the various districts of the Island and report upon the conservation and administration of Crown forests. Mr. Vincent, of the Madras Forest Department, spent over a year in Ceylon upon this work. In addition to last year's vote, a sum of Rs. 10,891 is required in payment of his salary and allowances.

MASTER ATTENDANT, COLOMBO.

The steam tug "Active" being no longer necessary for the Breakwater, her services have been taken over by the Government, on the recommendation of the Harbour Board, at a cost for this year of Rs. 2,520·86. The necessities of the port demand a steam tug of the description of the "Active."

No. 16.—INTEREST.

TREASURER.

The first item of Rs. 128,000 is not a charge upon the revenue, but really a matter of account, because that amount represents the interest earned by the Colony for advances made out of its cash balances to the Breakwater. It is inserted here as a debit, but will appear as a credit to revenue per contra.

It appears that instead of exercising further borrowing powers under the Breakwater Ordinance, the sums required from time to time for that work have for the last few years been advanced from the cash balances of the Colony, as a means of investment. The arrangement is a very advantageous one for the Breakwater, which thus pays interest only on the sums actually required by it from month to month, whereas if a loan were raised it would have to be for a considerable sum, and the indebtedness of the Breakwater would, for a time, be much in excess of its requirements. This interest is a fair charge against harbour revenue from 1st January, 1883.

On the other hand, the next item of Rs. 31,142·26 is a charge against the revenue, being for interest on advances obtained by the Crown Agents from London Banks to cover payments on account of the Colombo Waterworks pending the issue of a loan for those works. The rate of interest on these advances having been under four per cent., the operation was a favourable one for Government.

J. DOUGLAS.
W. D. WRIGHT.
J. STODDART.
P. RA'MA-NA'THAN.
F. M. MACKWOOD.
A. L. DE ALWIS.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Colombo, 19th December, 1883.

XX.—1883.

DETAILS OF ARREARS OF REVENUE.

RETURN to the following Order of the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, dated the 19th December, 1883:—

(1) That a Return classifying the collections on account of Arrears of Revenue, under the heads of Revenue to which they properly belong, for each of the years from 1863 to 1882; and

(2) That a Return showing the amount collected in each Province on account of Land Revenue, and credited as Arrears of Revenue, in each year 1863–1882, be furnished.

(Hon. J. F. Dickson.)

Ordered by the Legislative Council to be Printed.

Colombo:

FRANK LUKER, ACTING GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1883.

DETAILS OF ARREARS OF REVENUE.

(1)

STATEMENT classifying the Arrears of Revenue to the heads to which they belong for each of the years 1863 to 1882.

YEARS.	Land Revenue.	Licenses.	Tolls.	Taxes.	Other heads.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1863 ...	5,930	77,654	56,166	—	—	139,750
1864 ...	3,658	116,439	15,793	—	48	135,938
1865 ...	8,793	179,971	53,403	—	—	242,167
1866 ..	9,877	193,846	80,769	—	128	284,620
1867 ...	10,254	211,696	75,150	—	—	297,100
1868 ...	8,013	266,739	41,670	—	338	316,760
1869 ...	21,830	267,094	36,830	401	169	326,324
1870 ...	11,406	179,864	36,029	4,049	—	231,348
1871 ...	108,755	158,519	30,508	23,785	—	321,567
1872 ...	128,311	118,445	24,552	27,371	—	298,679
1873 ...	121,672	63,053	24,722	30,585	—	240,032
1874 ...	142,361	87,736	23,001	29,218	—	282,316
1875 ...	150,107	182,755	34,185	26,176	—	393,223
1876 ...	177,435	127,682	42,486	36,468	—	384,071
1877 ...	136,727	197,166	34 629	30,095	—	398,617
1878 ...	141,454	213,712	135,254	33,758	—	524,178
1879 ...	120,215	320,049	40,667	38,078	—	519,009
1880 ...	150,372	242,717	64,621	32,772	—	490,482
1881 ...	211,547	149,477	46,488	31,436	—	438,948
1882 ...	172,558	166,479	54,396	31,068	—	424,501
	1,841,275	3,521,093	951,319	375,260	683	6,689,630

(2)

STATEMENT showing the Amount collected in each Province on account of Land Revenue and credited as Arrears of Revenue in each year from 1863 to 1882.

YEARS.	Western.	Central.	Southern.	Northern.	Eastern	North-Western.	North-Central.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1863 ...	576	771	2,353	435	963	832	—	5,930
1864 ...	392	—	1,207	612	857	590	—	3,658
1865 ...	4,366	—	810	2,986	406	225	—	8,793
1866 ...	381	2,124	1,315	1,591	2,089	2,377	—	9,877
1867 ...	7,494	399	1,002	1,092	18	249	—	10,254
1868 ...	4,008	291	891	856	—	1,967	—	8,013
1869 ...	3,348	114	1,924	10,816	614	5,014	—	21,830
1870 ...	—	465	1,925	7,475	1,398	143	—	11,406
1871 ...	6,690	83,077	745	632	16,515	1,096	—	108,755
1872 ...	12,046	96,199	249	13	19,671	133	—	128,311
1873 ...	7,245	85,245	514	366	27,301	1,001	—	121,672
1874 ...	3,587	106,883	28	41	29,972	—	1,850	142,361
1875 ...	8,363	95,400	217	1,502	44,079	—	546	150,107
1876 ...	25,921	101,960	186	304	48,143	—	921	177,435
1877 ..	5,896	88,206	114	—	42,474	—	37	136,727
1878 ...	10,919	65,657	240	21,481	42,965	87	105	141,454
1879 ...	19,280	83,885	1,482	4,287	11,243	38	—	120,215
1880 ...	31,819	93,092	133	6,291	17,910	1,127	—	150,372
1881 ...	37,235	104,633	10	2,641	66,787	156	85	211,547
1882 ...	21,685	128,089	—	9	22,683	31	61	172,558
TOTAL ...	211,251	1,136,490	15,345	63,430	396,088	15,066	3,605	1,841,275

XXI.—1883.

DESPATCHES

RELATING TO THE

NEW LUNATIC ASYLUM.

(In continuation of Sessional Paper No. IX. of 1883.)

Ordered by His Excellency the Governor to be Printed.

Colombo:
FRANK LUKER, ACTING GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1884.

NEW LUNATIC ASYLUM.

No. 1.

The Colonial Office to Sir James Longden, K.C.M.G.

Downing-street,
27th June, 1877.

Sir,—I am directed by the Earl of Carnarvon to transmit to you, for your information, the accompanying copy of a despatch from the Lieutenant-Governor of Ceylon, together with a copy of his Lordship's reply, respecting the commencement of a new lunatic asylum.

2. I am to take this opportunity of communicating to you a despatch from Sir W. H. Gregory submitting plans for such an asylum.

3. His Lordship felt that these plans were open to certain objections of principle and detail, and those objections you will find embodied in the accompanying draft despatch. No despatch, however, founded on this draft has been sent to the Governor, as it was thought inexpedient to enter into a discussion of details with the local Government when the retirement of Sir W. H. Gregory was so near at hand, and the Secretary of State's views on the plans will be embodied in a despatch to be addressed to you as Governor of the Colony.

4. Lord Carnarvon considers this work to be one of great urgency, and desires me to impress on you the importance of taking the matter into consideration immediately on your assumption of the Government.

I am, &c.,
ROBERT GEO. HERBERT.

Enclosure No. 1 in No. 1.

Lieutenant-Governor A. N. Birch, C.M.G., to the Earl of Carnarvon.

No. 94.
Miscellaneous.

Nuwara Eliya,
Ceylon, April 6th, 1877.

My Lord,—With reference to Sir W. Gregory's despatch, No. 293 of the 26th September last, forwarding for your Lordship's approval a plan for a new lunatic asylum at Colombo, I have the honor to forward herewith copy of a letter received from the Principal Civil Medical Officer and Inspector-General of Hospitals, urging upon the Government the absolute necessity of pressing on the building of the new asylum, the commencement of which only awaits your Lordship's approval of the plan.

I have, &c.,
A. N. BIRCH.

Sub-Enclosure in Enclosure No. 1.

Dr. W. R. Kynsey to the Colonial Secretary.

Principal Civil Medical Officer's Office,
Colombo, 28th March, 1877.

No. 221.

Sir,—I have the honor to enquire what steps have been taken with regard to the construction of the proposed new lunatic asylum. I am induced to address you on this subject in view of the, comparatively speaking, large number of deaths in the present building during the current quarter. The sanitary defects of the asylum have been so frequently and prominently brought to the notice of Government in the annual reports of the medical officer in charge, and by the special reports of myself, that it is unnecessary to recapitulate them here. The construction of the building is so irremediably faulty that I consider it almost impossible to improve it. I would, therefore, urge upon you the absolute necessity of losing no further time in pressing on the building of a new asylum.

I need hardly point out that the comparative health of the inmates has been maintained in spite of its many sanitary defects by the most careful and painstaking attention of the Superintendent in charge. I have no hesitation in stating that everything that medical or sanitary science could suggest has been done to insure the health and comfort of the patients, but that it is impossible to remedy the present defects. I would also draw your attention to the fact that the asylum population is gradually increasing, notwithstanding that the officer in charge has discharged, with the approval of Government, all the patients that he considered it safe to send to their friends outside. The insane population during the first quarter of 1876 was 239; during the corresponding period of the present year it amounts to 255, showing an increase of 16. During the present year, up to date, there have been 16 deaths, against 8 in the first quarter of last year, or exactly double. I am far from thinking that any of these deaths were caused by the defective nature of the asylum buildings, and I feel confident that everything has been done that could be done to prolong the lives of these patients; still there is no doubt the mortality is excessive as compared with former similar periods. There were three deaths in January, nine in February, and four in the present month. Three died from apoplexy, four from diarrhœa, one from choleraic diarrhœa, one feb. intermit., five debility, one enteritis, and one softening of the brain. As to the

locality in the asylum where these patients took ill, one took ill in the house of observation, eight in the cellular division, two in No. 6 male association ward, three in No. 2 female ward, two in No. 2 male ward, one in No. 4 ward, and with one exception all died under treatment in hospital. Of the diseases for which these insanes were originally admitted, twelve were suffering from chronic mania, three from recurrent mania, and one from epilepsy. As to the duration of their residence in the asylum, two were under six months, three over six and under twelve months, four were over two years, one over two and under three years, three were under four years, two were ten years, and one was twenty-six years as an inmate of the institution.

The average cubic space for each patient was 453·6 in the dormitories, 734·4 in the day room and corridors, and 1248 in the single rooms. It is instructive to remark that exactly one-half of the deaths occurred in the single rooms with 1248 cubic feet of air space.

Having carefully inspected these cells and their surroundings with the object of arriving at some cause for the number of deaths, I find that the windows overlook a very narrow strip of ground enclosed by a high wall which seriously interferes with ventilation. I beg strongly to recommend that this wall be at once pulled down, and that you will have the goodness to issue the necessary instructions to the Public Works Department.

The drains throughout the asylum consist of a system of open surface drains, tubular, however, in places, many of them pass through the latrines and receive in consequence some of the fœcal matter, for although the dry-earth system is well carried out it is impossible to prevent some of the feeble-minded easing themselves into the drain instead of into the dry-earth box.

I cannot suggest any remedy for this state of things except to urge upon Government the desirability of building the new asylum with as little delay as possible. I have directed the attention of the medical officer in charge to the mortality during the past three months, and I have every confidence that he does all in his power to carefully attend to the wants of the inmates of the asylum over which he is placed. He states as follows in reply to a letter I addressed to him on this subject:—

"With the oppressive heat which prevailed last month, and with latrines and open drains enclosed within this area, with all its defective ventilation, and, moreover, with sudden atmospheric changes from hot days into chilly nights, I have no difficulty in tracing to these causes the prevalence of diarrhœa last month, and the occurrence from it of the mortality alluded to."

I would, therefore, ask the Government to sanction the erection of some temporary cadjan wards, but I fear they could not be placed within the asylum grounds, and there would be much risk in placing even quiet patients during the night outside the present enclosure.

Although I am unable to suggest any improvements except pulling down the wall before alluded to, perhaps the Provincial Assistant, if directed to do so, might suggest alterations which would improve the present faulty construction.

As a temporary measure, I have sanctioned the removal of some of the quiet patients (about 20) into the house of observation, so as to increase the amount of cubic space for those occupying the dormitories. All the drains are tarred inside once or twice weekly, and the greatest attention is paid to the cleanliness of the asylum and its inmates.

I beg, in conclusion, strongly to advise that no further patients be sent into the asylum, as they can only add to its present overcrowded condition.

I am, &c.,
W. R. KYNSEY,
Principal Civil Medical Officer,
and Inspector-General of Hospitals.

Enclosure No. 2 in No. 1.

The Earl of Carnarvon to Lieutenant-Governor A. N. Birch, C.M.G.

Copy.

Ceylon, No. 140. Downing-street, 25th June, 1877.

Sir,—I have received your despatch, No. 94 of the 6th of April, urging that authority be given to you to commence the works connected with the new lunatic asylum.

2. I have to refer you in reply to my telegram of the 23rd of April, from which you will have learned that I do not feel able to sanction the plans submitted in Sir W. H. Gregory's despatch No. 293 of the 26th of September.

3. I have communicated with Sir James Longden, and have impressed on him the importance of dealing with the question of a new asylum immediately upon assuming the Government.

4. I shall state in detail in a despatch to Sir James Longden the objections which I entertain to the plans submitted by the Government of Ceylon last year.

I have, &c.,
CARNARVON.

Enclosure No. 3 in No. 1.

Queen's House,
No. 293. Colombo, 26th September, 1876.

My Lord,—I have the honor to forward herewith a plan for a new lunatic asylum at Colombo.

2. Ever since I assumed the Government of Ceylon I have been desirous of effecting extensive alterations in this building, but each time I visited it I became more and more convinced of the hopelessness of the attempt to make any real improvement in the present structure. It is composed of a set of rambling buildings without proper order or arrangement, it is placed in a low situation, almost a swamp, where effective drainage is impossible, and the stench of the present

drainage within the walls on my last visit nearly made me sick. No blame is to be attached to the medical officer in charge; he does all he can to flush his drains, but water is wanting, and there is no fall for it even were an ample supply at hand. He informed me that the dreadful effluvia which I remarked on that occasion, but not before, was by no means uncommon. The strange feature of the case, however, is this, that at times when at Welikada convict prison, which is situated on a height and only separated by a road, there has been a good deal of sickness, the asylum has been perfectly healthy. This is the reason why it has not been condemned by the medical authorities. This immunity cannot, however, be relied on, and for the health, comfort, and discipline of the insane patients I consider a new asylum to be absolutely necessary.

3. I brought the subject before the Legislative Council last year, and they voted Rs. 40,000 on account of a new asylum, but no satisfactory plan was then prepared. Immediately after the adjournment of Council I went to Calcutta, and was there greatly struck with a circular plan for a lunatic asylum which had been partly carried out, and which seemed to be most admirable in its arrangements. I obtained the assistance of Dr. Paynes, the eminent head of the establishment; he gave me the full benefit of his views, and also a plan of the kind of building which he considered should be the type of a lunatic asylum. I understand that the Government of India has so highly approved of his design that the new asylum at Lahore is to be built in accordance with it. The plan forwarded embraces the main principles of Dr. Paynes' sketch, but it has been elaborately worked out by Mr. Smither, our very able architect, and I trust your Lordship will approve of it as highly as I do.

4. The present number of insane patients is about 320, but undoubtedly more will come in as the advantage of the institution and the kindness with which the inmates are treated become better known. I have had it therefore designed for 416, and additional room if necessary can be added hereafter.

5. The cost is estimated approximately at Rs. 350,000, at the rate of Rs. 840 per head, which, considering that Kandy prison is to cost at the rate of Rs. 1,000 a head, is moderate. This comprises everything—the whole outlay of building, raising the ground, draining, &c.; also the doctor's residence.

6. I am at present engaged in inquiring whether a better site cannot be found than the present one within a short distance of Colombo. Constant inspection is required for a lunatic asylum—even more than for any other public institution, and if a plot of land can be selected near at hand with better drainage and a good water supply, I should prefer to erect the new structure on it rather than reconstruct on the present position. A saving, moreover, of at least Rs. 12,000 would be effected by the change, as the area of the whole building will have to be raised considerably on the present site to secure effective drainage, and the nature of the soil is such that the foundations will have to be sunk to an unusual depth to obtain the requisite stability.

7. I cannot undertake such a large expenditure without your approval, but considering this is to be an institution for the whole Island of the most beneficent description, and that imbeciles and idiots who now go about uncared for ought to be sheltered within it, I do not shrink from recommending it to you. I might have cut down the estimates by a few thousand pounds, but had I done so, I could not have obtained all the appliances for comfort, recreation, supervision, and discipline which I have secured. The circular form is adopted for the sake of ventilation, and for that purpose is preferable to a rectangular building.

8. On the whole, though the cost is large, I consider the estimate very reasonable, considering all that is provided for in it.

9. I do not propose to press unduly on the revenue by asking for the whole sum at once. An expenditure of Rs. 100,000 per annum for three years will meet the case. If a different site be chosen, by the end of two years the patients can be removed to the new buildings, and the remaining work can be done leisurely without interfering with them. If the present site be retained, the plan can be worked out even more slowly and at a less annual expense, and the patients can be transferred to the new blocks according as they are completed.

10. I am very anxious to begin work, having my plans at last complete and Rs. 40,000 voted. So if your Lordship will kindly telegraph your assent we shall at once commence our foundations. I should mention that the plans have received the full sanction of the Principal Medical Officer. I shall forward his report on the necessity of a new asylum by the French Mail, as he has suddenly left Colombo and I cannot procure it for this post.

I have, &c.,
W. H. GREGORY.

P. S.—Since this despatch was written, the report of the Principal Civil Medical Officer was sent in and is herewith forwarded.

Enclosure No. 4 in No. 1.

Draft Despatch.

Downing-street, 27th June, 1877.

SIR,—I HAVE received your despatch, No. 293 of the 26th of September, forwarding plans for a new lunatic asylum.

2. With regard to the question of site, I entirely concur in your view that it would be injudicious to erect the new asylum upon the present site. Apart from the very considerable additional expense which such a course would involve, the difficulty in securing and maintaining a satisfactory sanitary condition is in itself sufficient to condemn the proposal to build on the Borella site.

3. I transmit to you for your information a copy of a letter and memorandum respecting these plans with which I have been furnished by the Lunacy Commissioners.

4. In the remarks they have been good enough to make, they have of course been guided by their experience of English asylums, and I therefore propose to supplement their report by a few observations based on the recognized principles of sanitary construction in the tropics.

5. The octagonal scheme adopted is recommended by you on account of the facilities which it is supposed to afford for supervision and administration, but bearing in mind that complete and effectual supervision cannot be maintained, especially in a tropical climate, except in buildings which have every facility for intercommunication, I am strongly of opinion that the advantages which it is hoped to derive from the adoption of this plan have been overrated, and while this criticism applies to all buildings constructed on a polygonal plan, it acquires in the present instance additional force from the proposal to surround the central block (where the supervising officers reside) with a circular colonnade which will militate against the efficiency of supervision on every side, but more especially upon the female side of the asylum, where the colonnade is open on one side only; here the view of the matron, whose rooms are on the ground floor, will be obstructed by the wall which intervenes between her quarters and those occupied by the female patients.

6. It also appears to me that so far as regards the maintenance of order and discipline within the buildings themselves, the supervision which can be exercised by the officers residing in the central block, and who would merely be able to overlook buildings 220 feet distant, does not certainly compensate for the many disadvantages of the polygonal system. Among these disadvantages I may refer to one which is inherent in all such plans, and which has special weight in the tropics, namely, that it is impossible to secure for all or even a large proportion of the blocks a proper aspect and exposure to the prevailing winds. In the present case, the blocks have been designed with verandahs on one side only—that facing inwards towards the centre of the octagon, and the result is that in the case of one block only, that on the north side of the octagon, is the verandah on the proper side of the building; all the other blocks have their walls more or less unprotected, and the defect is most patent in that on the south side, which, while its verandah faces to the north, has its long south side exposed during the whole day to the rays of the sun.

7. Moreover, buildings collocated upon the octagonal plan have necessarily the additional disadvantage of more or less protecting one another from the wind and thus impeding free external ventilation.

8. Such objections as the foregoing can be met by having recourse to the pavilion system with a corridor connecting the blocks and giving easy access to all parts at all hours of the day and night, thus affording the best guarantee for supervision, the administrative block being in a central position, and therefore most conveniently situated for dealing with the blocks on each side of it.

9. The pavilion plan admits of perfect classification of inmates by sex, race, or form of mental disorder, and if the long axes of the pavilions are placed east and west, the verandah side of each can have a southern exposure. As regards prevailing winds, the intervals between the pavilions can be so adjusted that each block may have a full exposure to the prevailing winds blowing from opposite quarters, provided only that the connecting corridor is of a sufficiently open construction.

10. With regard to the central block in the plans which you have submitted, I have to observe that if the receiving room, dispensary, surgery, drug and other stores were collected on the ground floor, and the quarters placed over them, better supervision would be secured, and the service of the asylum considerably facilitated.

11. The general arrangements of the ordinary blocks appear to me good, but the plans do not show any night latrines or urinals available under cover.

12. The space available per head in the infirmary is only equal to that allowed for ordinary inmates. It seems to me obvious that a greater space should be allowed for infirmary than for ordinary patients, and I may remark that the infirmary of a lunatic asylum requires a more liberal allowance of cubical space than that prescribed for a general hospital, and that generally the allowance for cubical space throughout the proposed asylum is below the proper standard.

13. There appears to be no attendant's room in connection with convalescent wards, nor are there any means of segregating very serious or infectious cases. The baths, latrines, &c., should also be in covered connection with each floor. The above remarks apply to the female as well as the male side of the infirmary, but the former is open, perhaps, to an additional objection, inasmuch as it is proposed to lodge under its roof the newly-arrived female lunatics, who will thus find themselves placed in immediate contact with patients in all stages of disease.

14. The stores should all be collected in the administrative block, and, if this principle were adhered to, the building at the right hand side of the gate would then be available for newly-arrived female patients, as it is clearly most undesirable that these females should be under the same roof with infirmary patients.

15. With regard to the male side, I have to point out that the attendant's room only gives him the means of supervision over one out of the five separate wards which he is expected to supervise.

16. In conclusion, while I regret to be compelled to criticise in an unfavourable manner a project which appears to have had, in your opinion, much to recommend it, I feel convinced that you will gladly avail yourself of the opportunity of embodying in an amended scheme the important suggestions to which, dealing as they do more with the principles than with the details of asylum arrangements, I have thought it necessary to call your attention in this despatch.

I have, &c.

Sub-Enclosure in Enclosure No. 4.

COMMISSIONERS IN LUNACY to the COLONIAL OFFICE.

Office of Commissioners in Lunacy,
19, Whitehall Place, S. W.
November 28th, 1876.

SIR,—IN compliance with the request contained in your letter of the 15th instant, the Commissioners in Lunacy, assisted by their Consulting Architect, have examined the plans, returned herewith, for the proposed new asylum for Ceylon; and I am directed by the Board to forward, for the information of Lord Carnarvon, the accompanying copy of their observations thereon.

The Commissioners have of course felt a difficulty in reporting upon plans for an asylum to be inhabited and conducted under conditions of climate and habits so different to those of this country, and their remarks must be taken as offered under such considerations.

I am, &c.,
CHARLES SP. PERCEVAL,
Secretary.

Observations on Plans for proposed new Asylum for Ceylon.

The first impression was that the form and treatment partook more of the character of a prison than of a lunatic asylum, such as are seen in England; but the spaces within the octagonal enclosing wall are so large that no inconvenience could arise from a want of circulation of air, and there would appear to be abundant space for all purposes of exercise and recreation in the five courts or spaces appropriated to males and the three appropriated to women, whilst the open colonnades afford useful shelter.

The absence of any kitchen or other cooking arrangements, of any laundry or wash-house accommodation, of day-rooms, ward sculleries or lavatories, or store-rooms in connection with the wards, is remarkable; but the absence of these usual arrangements in an English asylum is in the main accounted for in the various reports submitted.

(1) As regards the kitchens, &c., it states in the Architect's report that "provisions for the asylum will be provided and cooked by a contractor whose kitchen and stores will be erected outside the boundary walls, and for convenience of access to the wards, &c. from the kitchen there will be wicket gates in the boundary wall where shown on plan."

Whatever opinion may be formed as to the convenience and economy of such an arrangement, the fact of there being four distinct external gateways in the outer boundary wall appears to be very unsatisfactory. If the provisions are to be served from without, it would seem expedient that they should all be made to pass through the principal archway, where a certain control and supervision could be exercised, and afterwards, by doorways at A and B, be distributed to the various wards, &c.

(2) It appears that it is proposed to utilize the "verandahs" as day-rooms, for meals, &c.; if so, it would be well that their width should be increased to 12 feet, *i.e.*, about 2 feet.

They would then serve all the purposes of the English "day-rooms" for the respective wards to which they were attached, and perhaps save the cost of the "reading room" alluded to in the medical officer's report.

(3) No mention is made of laundry or wash-house; possibly it is intended that the washing for the asylum should be done (like the cooking) by contract, and outside the octagonal boundary wall. It is not likely that such an important matter should have been lost sight of.

(4) The portion of the arrangement shown on these plans which appears most objectionable, and most opposed to our modern ideas of asylum arrangement, is the collection in one block of building (the sexes of course being separated) of *all* the single cells (and that *in a double row*) in the asylum. It would appear to be much more desirable to have a few single rooms for excited or refractory patients attached to each of the several wards requiring such adjuncts, and in such proportions as the several classes might require.

If, however, there are *local* circumstances which would render such an arrangement inexpedient, these single rooms should certainly be constructed *in one row*, and with a verandah in front as originally shown on the block said "to be omitted."

(5) It is not clear whether it is intended that the upper floor of the centre block of building within the circle should be occupied by a resident medical officer, but in an asylum of this size it would be essential that there should be such an officer, and with the "detached" arrangement shown on these plans he could not be in a better position.

The superficial and cubical area that have been adopted appear sufficient, and the arrangements for ventilation have not been overlooked, and are no doubt formed on the best of all tests, viz., local experience.

No. 2.

Governor Sir JAMES R. LONGDEN, K.C.M.G., to the EARL of CARNARVON.

No. 305.
Miscellaneous.

Queen's House, Colombo,
7th September, 1878.

SIR,—WITH reference to previous correspondence, I have now the honour to enclose, for your consideration, copies of ground plans and elevations of new buildings which it is proposed to erect in Colombo for a lunatic asylum.

2. These plans have been designed by the Director of Public Works, at my request, on the pavilion or block system, each group of dormitories and day-rooms being a separate building accessible to free ventilation on all four sides, but connected with each other by passages both on the ground and upper floors, so that every part of the building can be reached in two or three minutes from any other part. The administrative offices and workshops occupy the centre block, the men's divisions being on the right, the women's on the left.

3. I enclose a copy of the report of the Director of Public Works descriptive of the building, and also a copy of a report by the Principal Civil Medical Officer approving of the proposed site and of the building generally, but suggesting several improvements which can be effected without difficulty.

4. Dr. Kynsey thinks that the number of single rooms may be reduced to one-half the number provided in the plans. I entirely concur with him on the practice that he advocates of diminishing the number of patients placed in seclusion, and I have always preferred association to solitude for insane patients, but there are some considerations here which should not be overlooked. In a great English country asylum where the patients are all of one race and almost all of one social class, the number of separate rooms is dictated by medical considerations alone, but in an asylum like that of Colombo, where Europeans, Sinhalese, Tamils, and Burghers (of mixed Portuguese or Dutch descent) are brought together, people who have never been accustomed to mix familiarly with each other, speaking different languages, following different customs, and belonging to different grades in the social circle, additional means of isolation and separation will, I believe, be found valuable. Only within the last few weeks it has been found necessary to make special arrangements for the reception at the present asylum of aged lunatics of a better class, who could not safely or humanely be sent into a general ward.

5. From the nature of the enclosed designs it will be seen that it can be added to from time to time as the number of patients increases, the limit being the number of patients who can be properly served and attended from the administrative offices in the centre block. The enclosed drawings show four blocks, each designed to hold 130 beds. The reception rooms hold 20 more, making a total of 540 patients. The total estimate for the land and buildings amounts to Rs. 675,240, being at the rate of Rs. 1,250 per bed. This is very little more expensive than the designs submitted by Sir William Gregory, which the Director of Public Works reports would have cost Rs. 1,185 per bed, or Rs. 65 less than the enclosed design.

6. It is not necessary to build at once the whole of the six blocks shown on the plans. The entrance buildings, the administration block, and one block for patients on each side are all that is immediately necessary. These buildings would cost Rs. 330,000, to which is to be added the cost of land, fences, baths, &c., which would probably amount to Rs. 100,000 more, making a total of Rs 430,000. The site proposed for the asylum is at Borella, adjoining the site of the existing asylum, but on higher ground, and it is proposed, as soon as two blocks are built, to remove all the male patients to the new buildings, and to retain the females in the old buildings, where there will then be ample room for them, until it is convenient to proceed with the next two blocks.

7. The proposed site of the asylum is sufficiently near the Welikada prison, as will be seen in the plans, to allow of a considerable saving being effected upon the estimates by the use of prison labour in levelling the site and similar works in which convicts can be conveniently employed.

8. The plan of the grounds round the asylum has not yet been worked out so as to show the appropriation of the different gardens, but this will be done before the building is completed.

9. If the enclosed plans should receive your approval, I should be glad to receive authority to commence the work at an early date.

I have, &c.,
J. R. LONGDEN.

No. 3.

Sir M. E. Hicks-Beach, Bart., to Governor Sir James R. Longden, K.C.M.G.

Ceylon, No. 297. Downing-street, 25th November, 1878.

Sir,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, No. 305 of the 7th of September, forwarding the plans of the new lunatic asylum.

While expressing my approval of these plans, and my sense of the care which has been bestowed upon them, I would enclose, for your information and guidance, a copy of a memorandum drawn up by Captain Ommanney, containing criticisms on some points of detail which it will be desirable for you to note.

The Government of Ceylon is indebted to Captain Ommanney for the valuable advice and assistance which he has given in this matter.

I have, &c.,
M. E. HICKS-BEACH.

Enclosure in No. 3.

MINUTE by Captain Ommanney.

The main difficulty in designing this asylum is the great amount of classification which has to be provided for. There is, first, the separation of the sexes, which necessitates a male and female side; there is then the separation of Europeans from natives, and, in addition, in each of the classes thus formed, there should be three sub-divisions into chronic, acute, and newly-arrived

cases, the arrangements in each sub-division being such as to admit of separate accommodation for the infirm, for those requiring segregation in single rooms, and for those who can be treated in association. Of course a hospital for infectious cases must also be provided. When it is remembered, moreover, that in this asylum the number of native males greatly exceeds that of the females, and that both are much more numerous than the Europeans, some idea may be formed of the great difficulty of combining the classification which is really very desirable with arrangements which shall satisfy all the requirements of convenience in administration and of health, without altogether ignoring the symmetry of the building.

In the plans now submitted by the Governor, you will notice that the male and female sides of the asylum are made to furnish exactly the same amount of accommodation, and there is no special structural provision for such extensive classification as I have referred. The whole design becomes, therefore, very greatly simplified, and the difficulties are rather evaded than overcome. Even as regards classification, however, it is an enormous advance upon anything which has yet been proposed for Ceylon or for India (though I doubt if Indian authorities would admit this), or, so far as I am aware, for any place within the tropics.

In respect of the general arrangement of the parts, the plans embody the main principles which I have advocated in my former minutes, and upon which I laid the greatest stress in my conversations with Sir J. Longden. The adoption of the pavilion system with the central administration and complete facility of communication between all the parts under every condition of weather are the really important points in determining the block plan. The details appear to have been very carefully worked out, and to be in every way calculated to ensure the efficiency of the asylum. I would, however, venture to call attention to the following points :—

(1) *Administration.*—No provision seems to be made for a reception room in connection with the Medical Superintendent's Office—I presume the patients are examined before admission even as new arrivals,—nor for clothing, or bedding, or utensils' stores. In the quarters there should, I think, most certainly be rooms for a matron in charge of the female side, and a few rooms for extra attendants. If one of the day-rooms could be set apart for the use of the attendants when off duty, it would, I imagine, be a great boon to them.

(2) *Wards.*—I do not think one attendant to 50 patients sufficient, especially as a certain number are infirm patients requiring special attention. I agree with Sir J. Longden in thinking that the number of single rooms admits of some, though probably only slight, reduction, and possibly accommodation for at least one more attendant per block may be found in this way. The infirmary patients ought, I think, to have some bath and latrine accommodation near their ward. At present there is nothing nearer than the centre of the block.

On the whole, the design appears to me to be altogether superior to the octagonal plan originally proposed, and in point of cost it is really much cheaper, inasmuch as it devotes the whole of the ground-floor to day-rooms, for which there was no provision in the first plan. Of course if patients were placed upon the ground-floor the cost of this design could be reduced at least one-third, but there are so many objections to such a practice, that I think Sir J. Longden much to be commended for not proposing it.

I should much have liked to have submitted my own solution of the problem of a properly-classified asylum for mixed races in the tropics, but I think it would have been more costly than the present design, which, in point of fact, possesses so many good features that I have no hesitation in recommending that it should be sanctioned.

XXII.—1883.

BILL AMENDING WHARF AND WAREHOUSE ORDINANCE.

REPORT of a SUB-COMMITTEE of the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL appointed to report upon the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to amend and continue in force Ordinance No. 10 of 1876, intituled 'An Ordinance to repeal the Wharf and Warehouse Ordinance, 1865, and to make further provision for the establishment in Colombo and regulation of a Company to perform the duties of Wharfingers and Warehousemen.'"

Ordered by the Legislative Council to be Printed.

Colombo:

FRANK LUKER, ACTING GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1884.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Legislative Council, dated 4th January, 1884.

Resolved,—That the following gentlemen be appointed a Sub-Committee to report upon the Bill intituled :

"An Ordinance to amend and continue in force Ordinance No. 10 of 1876, intituled 'An Ordinance to repeal the Wharf and Warehouse Ordinance, 1865, and to make further provision for the establishment in Colombo and regulation of a Company to perform the duties of Wharfingers and Warehousemen.'"

The Hon. R. W. D. MOIR, Acting Auditor-General.

The Hon. W. D. WRIGHT, Treasurer.

The Hon. P. RÁMA-NÁTHAN, } Unofficial Members.
The Hon. G. B. LEECHMAN, }

BILL AMENDING WHARF AND WAREHOUSE ORDINANCE.

REPORT.

THE Sub-Committee appointed by the Legislative Council to consider the Ordinance entitled "An Ordinance to amend and continue in force Ordinance No. 10 of 1876, intituled 'An Ordinance to repeal the Wharf and Warehouse Ordinance, 1865, and to make further provision for the establishment in Colombo and regulation of a Company to perform the duties of Wharfingers and Warehousemen,'" have the honour to report as follows :—

Clause 1 should be amended by substituting "1884," in line 2, for "1883."

Schedule A.

Imports —In the heading of the first money-column, the words "Rates for" should be inserted before the word "goods"

The word "proposed," in the heading of the second money-column, should be omitted ; and in lieu of the rates inserted in that column in the draft bill, the Sub-Committee recommend the substitution of those undermentioned, viz. :—

			Rs.	cts.
Asphalt	—	₱ ton	1	20
Cement	—	₱ barrel	0	28
Cotton Goods	In bales or cases of ordinary size	each	0	30
Earthernware	Crates, or casks of ordinary size	do.	0	60
Do.	Of large size	do.	0	90
Fish (dried)	In packages not exceeding 1 cwt.	each pkg.	0	7
Do.	Exceeding 1 cwt.	₱ cwt.	0	7
Flour	In barrels	each	0	28
Do.	In bags of 200 lbs.	do.	0	12
Glassware	In crates or casks	do.	1	0
Gunny Bags	Manufactured Jute and such like goods in bales	do.	0	30
Hardware	In casks or cases of ordinary size	do.	0	50
Do.	Of large size	do.	0	75
Iron	In bars, bundles, hoops, plates, pig, or packages not exceeding 1 ton in weight	₱ ton	1	25
Manure	—	do.	1	0
Nails, &c.	In kegs or drums of 1 cwt.	each	0	11
Oil, Turpentine, &c.	In drums of 5 gallons	do.	0	20
Oilmanstores	According to size :—Packages of 1 doz. size	do.	0	10
	do. 2 do.	do.	0	20
	do. 3 do.	do.	0	25
Parcels	And small packages not over 25 lbs. in weight (not containing valuables)	do.	0	20
Rice and Grain	Per bag of 164 lbs.	do.	0	8
Sugar	Per bag of 164 lbs.	do.	0	10
Staves	Hogsheads	₱ 100 bdls.	7	50
	Puncheons	do.	8	50
	Pipes	do.	10	50
Tar	In barrels	each	0	28
Vegetables and Miscellaneous Articles	Such as potatoes, onions, ginger, pepper, saffron, arrowroot and such like. If in baskets or robbins not exceeding 1 cwt.	do.	0	7
	Or if in larger packages	₱ cwt.	0	7
Wines, Spirits and Malt Liquor	In butts and pipes	each	1	12
	Puncheons	do.	0	60
	Hogsheads	do.	0	36
	Barrels of bottled Beer or Porter	do.	0	28
	Quarter casks	do.	0	25
	Casks of 3 dozens	do.	0	30
	Do. of 2 dozens	do.	0	20
	Do. of 1 dozen	do.	0	12

The Committee desires to state in regard to these rates that on receipt of the memorial to the Legislative Council, dated the 29th January last, from certain European mercantile firms in Colombo, and of the letter of a previous date to the address of the Colonial Secretary, protesting against the sanction of the Legislature being given to the maximum charges that in the Draft Ordinance it was proposed to authorize the Wharf and Warehouse Company to levy, they proceeded to take evidence regarding the rates charged by the other Boat Companies doing business in this port. At that enquiry the Managers of "No. 1 Boat Company" and of the "Despatch Boat

Company" laid before the Committee the tariffs of charges levied by these Companies. The first-named Company introduced a revised tariff on the 1st instant; the latter appear to have two schedules of rates,—the one made applicable to the general public, which has been in operation since the beginning of the year 1883, and the other being that according to which the regular constituents of the Company pay; this last has been in operation since November last. Before the Sub-Committee again met to prosecute the enquiry into the complaints set forth in the memorial and letter referred to, the Wharf and Warehouse Company forwarded to them an amended tariff, relating to imports, requesting that the rates shown in it might be substituted for those appearing in the second money-column of schedule A. in the Draft Ordinance. In the aggregate this tariff is almost identically the same as that of "No. 1 Boat Company," and it is only twelve or thirteen per cent. higher than that of the "Despatch Boat Company" which applies to its own particular constituents.

In these circumstances it seemed unnecessary to the Sub-Committee to take further evidence in the matter. Although time did not admit of their learning the views of all the memorialists in regard to the amended scale of charges, they were able to ascertain that one gentleman, whose firm had signed the memorial, and who had taken a leading part in the discussion of the question, was of opinion that the new rates were satisfactory. The Sub-Committee also considered that the amended scale of charges was a fair one, and this is what they have embodied in the recommendation made above; they have no hesitation in advising its approval by the Council.

Having regard to the fact that the Wharf and Warehouse Company are under obligation to pay a heavy rental and to keep in order extensive Government warehouses, and to undertake the management of business connected with the storage and delivery of goods which, in the warehouses that the other Boat Companies mainly work in, is conducted by Government officers, it seems to the Sub-Committee to be only reasonable to expect that the charges made by the Wharf and Warehouse Company must be somewhat higher than those which the other Boat Companies, who have no such responsibilities, are able to satisfy themselves with.

Exports.—The words "boat-load of," wherever they occur, should be omitted.

In the *Notabene*, omit the word "can" and words following, and substitute the words "shall be charged less than one-fourth of the above rates."

The rates for Warehouse rents under the heads "imports," "bonded goods," and "exports" have been omitted by oversight from schedule A., and should be repeated from the Ordinance No. 11 of 1880.

R. W. D. MOIR.
W. D. WRIGHT.
P. RA'MA-NA'THAN.
G. B. LEECHMAN.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Colombo, 12th February, 1884.

XXIII.—1883.

CEYLON.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

LAID BEFORE THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

DURING THE SESSION OF 1883—84.

Colombo:

FRANK LUKER, ACTING GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1884.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
I.—Statement of the Revenue and Expenditure of the Colony of Ceylon for the year ended 31st December, 1882	2
II.—Comparative Statement of the Revenue of the Colony for the years 1881 and 1882	10
III.—Comparative Statement of the Expenditure of the Colony for the years 1881 and 1882	13
IV.—Statement showing the Assets and Liabilities of the Government of Ceylon on the 31st December, 1882	19
V.—Statement of the Cash Transactions for the year 1882	20
VI.—Statement showing the Balance of the Ceylon Government available for appropriation on 31st December, 1882	21
VII.—Statement showing the Revenue and Expenditure of the Colony of Ceylon for the Nine Months ended 30th September, 1882	22
VIII.—Comparative Statement of the Revenue and Expenditure of the Colony of Ceylon for the Nine Months ended 30th September, 1882 and 1883 ...	23
IX.—Comparative Statement of the Estimated and Actual Revenue and Expenditure of the Colony of Ceylon for the Nine Months ended 30th September, 1883...	24
X.—Estimate of the Revenue and Expenditure of the Colony of Ceylon for the year 1884	25

I.—STATEMENT of the REVENUE and EXPENDITURE

REVENUE.

	Rs.	cts.	Rs.	cts.	£	s.	d.
ARREARS OF REVENUE OF FORMER YEARS	—		424501	15	39796	19	8
CUSTOMS.							
Imports	2677344	31					
Plumbago	61248	86					
Warehouse Rent	6649	56					
Sundries	5210	5					
			2750452	78	257854	18	11½
PORT AND HARBOUR DUES.							
Port Clearances	113663	72					
Boats and Moorings	3183	75					
Pilotage	42936	0					
			159783	47	14979	14	0
LAND SALES.							
Waste Lands	—		271250	5½	25429	13	10
LAND REVENUE.							
Paddy	746230	87½					
Fine Grain	48284	44					
Gardens	6454	13					
Tythes redeemed	2822	39					
Rent of Lands	14498	59					
Royalty on Cabook, &c.	13	63					
Licenses on Plumbago	2585	57					
Cinnamon, &c.	28	50					
Sundries	1085	6					
			822003	18½	77062	15	11½
RENTS, EXCLUSIVE OF LANDS.							
Bridges, Canals, &c.	347745	96					
Government Buildings and Houses	35487	66					
			383233	62	35928	3	0
LICENSES.							
Arrack, Rum, and Toddy	1477952	88					
Stills	19100	0					
Wholesale Dealers in Arrack and Rum	600	0					
Retail of Salt	41030	0					
Opium	2500	0					
Chanks	5489	23					
Royalty on Elephants	1000	0					
			1547672	11	145094	5	3
STAMPS.							
General	743447	46					
Composition Duty	53970	6					
			797417	52	74757	17	10
TAXES	—		31308	36	2935	3	3
POSTAGE.							
Postage Stamps	221213	12½					
On Letters, etc.	20702	25					
			241915	37½	22679	11	4
FINES AND FORFEITURES.							
Supreme, District, and Police Courts	45329	65					
Government Agents	237	32					
Other Departments	25271	26					
			70838	23	6641	1	8
GOVERNMENT VESSELS	—		54668	37	5125	3	2½
SALE OF GOVERNMENT PROPERTY.							
Salt	827125	99					
Arrack and Rum	166	40					
Colonial Stores	14568	87					
Timber	141975	14					
Weights and Measures	121	1					
Unserviceable Tools	3834	79					
Produce of Botanical Gardens	3653	25					
Crops growing on Crown Lands	1343	89½					
Sundries	1679	13					
			994468	47½	93231	8	4½
Carried forward	—		8549512	70	801516	16	4

of the COLONY of CEYLON for the Year 1882.

EXPENDITURE.

	Salaries. Fixed.		Salaries. Provisional.		Allowances.		Contingencies.		Total.	
	Rs	cts.	Rs	cts.	Rs	cts.	Rs	cts.	Rs	cts.
Civil Establishments.										
His Excellency the Governor	78544	87	15426	86	—		456	18	94427	91
Secretariat	131846	97	22272	51	—		37233	24	191352	72
Treasury	30050	0	3460	0	979	16	1009	19	35498	35
Audit Office	36450	0	17613	0	—		3412	77	57475	77
PROVINCIAL AGENCIES.										
Western Province	87026	48	53050	83	90	0	2456	69	142624	0
North-Western Province	56506	35	20152	69	360	0	452	16½	77471	20½
Southern do.	77681	29	29655	94	405	0	1826	24	109571	47
Eastern do.	49936	33	13548	18	—		661	14	64145	65
Northern do.	65581	88	31870	48	500	0	2233	74	100186	10
Central do.	92833	77	47940	65	—		2999	77	143771	19
North-Central do.	15968	91	24061	29	—		493	41	40523	61
Public Works Department	167359	72	121559	6	1140	0	2424	46	292483	24
Survey Department	67599	53	188530	43	1456	25	—		257586	21
CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT.										
Western and North-Western Provinces	60624	14	24839	57	500	0	5899	55	91863	26
Southern Province	17105	2	4075	46	—		1354	4	22534	52
Eastern do.	6390	0	1077	14	—		422	68	7889	82
Northern do.	18732	98	2741	49	—		2548	86	24023	33
HARBOUR DEPARTMENT.										
Master Attendant, Colombo	7074	99	16140	90	1096	0	371	37	24683	26
Do. Gálle	5530	33	11020	0	—		636	29	17186	62
Do. Trincomalee	292	43	6092	0	—		501	41	6885	84
Do. Batticaloa	—		480	0	—		—		480	0
POSTAL AND TELEGRAPH	45337	71	148481	3	1380	0	—		195198	74
DIRECTOR, ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS	7454	65	10421	47	—		2599	44	20475	56
DIRECTOR, COLOMBO MUSEUM	—		11379	84	—		4943	61	16323	45
AGENT, COLONIAL STEAMER	—		23644	0	4255	98	—		27899	98
Judicial Establishments.										
Supreme Court, Chief Justice	20158	22	—		—		—		20158	22
Do. Senior and Junior Justices	39554	36	—		—		—		39554	36
Registry of the Supreme Court	21173	49	900	0	—		238	4	22311	53
Queen's Advocate and Deputies	47269	48	16899	98	—		391	64	64561	10
DISTRICT COURTS.										
WESTERN PROVINCE.										
Colombo	21100	0	3800	0	—		184	99	25084	99
Kalutara	14225	3	3012	93	—		100	0	17337	96
Kégalla	8490	0	2800	0	—		84	54	11374	54
Negombo	10139	64	2419	80	—		115	60	12675	4
Ratnapura	9830	0	2599	56	—		98	25	12527	81
NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCE.										
Chilaw	9062	22	1782	42	—		34	39	10879	3
Kurunégala	13090	0	3200	0	—		87	67	16377	67
SOUTHERN PROVINCE.										
Gálle	19140	0	3620	0	—		143	62	22903	62
Mátara	10270	0	2170	0	—		49	95	12489	95
Tangalla	3040	0	500	0	—		166	79	3706	79
EASTERN PROVINCE.										
Batticaloa	11406	67	2683	34	—		64	32	14154	33
Trincomalee	3315	0	145	0	—		4	99	3464	99
NORTHERN PROVINCE.										
Jaffna	14460	0	2570	0	—		245	82	17275	82
Mannár	1850	0	500	0	—		73	22	2423	22
Mullaittívu	1200	0	170	0	—		90	0	1460	0
Vavúniya-Viláṇkulam	—		1000	0	—		22	0	1022	0
CENTRAL PROVINCE.										
Badulla	11296	0	1500	0	—		110	75	12906	75
Kandy	20350	0	4500	0	—		165	2	25015	2
NORTH-CENTRAL PROVINCE.										
Anurádhapura	2649	98	283	36	—		90	50	3023	84
Carried forward	1439001	44	906591	21	12162	39	77498	34½	2435253	38½

REVENUE—*continued.*

	Rs.	cts.	Rs.	cts.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward	—		8549512	70	801516	16	4
REIMBURSEMENTS.							
Hospital Stoppages	3258	28					
Government Gazette, &c.	8939	58					
School Fees, &c.	21829	3½					
School Books, Stationery, &c.	5725	62					
Irrigation Works	34575	37½					
Survey Fees	52827	32					
Maintenance of Prisoners in Jails	2811	94					
Value of Tools lost	6016	56					
Value of Prison Labour	15074	66					
Refund of Civil Hospital expenses	11602	25					
Passage Money of Immigrant Coolies	11709	25					
Collections at Cemeteries	3067	35					
Storage of Gunpowder	1452	44					
Assessment Tax	1197	49					
Cost of Police recovered from Municipalities	111661	6					
Sundries	50491	81	342240	2	32085	0	0
ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH	—		54437	67	5103	10	7½
MISCELLANEOUS RECEIPTS.							
Payment on account of deficiency of Troops	—						
Overpayments recovered	268608	57¾					
Contribution to Widows' Pension Fund	1225	10					
Pioneer Pension Contributions	6213	30					
Unclaimed Deposits	28239	28					
Sundries	51595	10½	355881	36¼	33363	17	7
INTEREST.							
On Loan Board Funds	24320	80					
On Arrears of Revenue	25599	2					
On Investments	163505	67	213425	49	20008	12	10
PEARL FISHERY.							
Proceeds of	—		629	44	59	0	2
SPECIAL RECEIPTS.							
Fees for Title Deeds	6934	39					
Sundries	15	91	6950	30	651	11	10
RAILWAY RECEIPTS	—		2638493	4	247358	14	5½
Carried forward	—		12161570	2¼	1140147	3	10

EXPENDITURE—*continued.*

	Salaries. Fixed.		Salaries. Provisional.		Allowances.		Contingencies.		Total.	
	Rs.	cts.	Rs.	cts.	Rs.	cts.	Rs.	cts.	Rs.	cts.
Brought forward	1439001	44	906591	21	12162	39	77498	34½	2435253	38½
COURTS OF REQUESTS AND POLICE COURTS.										
WESTERN PROVINCE.										
Avisawella and Pasyala	6275	91	2140	0	—		139	25	8555	16
Colombo Police Court	10450	0	2150	0	—		322	4	12922	4
Do. Court of Requests	10850	0	2060	0	—		39	98	12949	98
Kalutara	—		7229	88	—		65	24	7295	12
Panadure	6327	83	459	96	—		83	88	6871	67
Balangoda	—		1318	97	—		50	0	1368	97
NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCE.										
Kalpitiya	6339	89	96	67	—		64	87	6501	43
Kurunegala	—		2040	0	—		56	29	2096	29
Puttalam and Marawila	2340	0	500	0	—		100	0	2940	0
SOUTHERN PROVINCE.										
Balapitimodara	6459	97	460	0	—		51	76	6971	73
Galle	9840	0	2164	45	—		190	35	12194	80
Hambantota	1411	25	—		—		26	58	1437	83
Matara	5130	0	7420	0	—		139	46	12689	46
NORTHERN PROVINCE.										
Chuvakacheheri	1620	0	370	0	—		92	38	2082	38
Jaffna	6520	0	1130	0	—		155	51	7805	51
Kayts	5570	0	1320	0	—		106	50	6996	50
Mullakam	—		870	0	—		190	0	1060	0
Point Pedro	5786	66	270	0	—		81	0	6137	66
EASTERN PROVINCE.										
Batticaloa	—		940	0	—		100	0	1040	0
CENTRAL PROVINCE.										
Dimbula and Dikoya	—		3079	92	—		417	24	3497	16
Galagedara	6560	0	1380	0	—		30	50	7970	50
Gampola and Pussellawa	6440	0	1280	0	—		89	30	7809	30
Haldummulla	5516	0	700	0	—		37	23	6253	23
Kandy	11060	0	1620	0	—		134	25	12814	25
Matale and Dambulla	6290	0	320	0	—		18	24	6628	24
Nawalapitiya	—		6608	4	—		32	0	6640	4
Nuwara Eliya and Maturata	1200	0	1410	0	—		65	88	2675	88
Panwila and Urugala	6840	0	683	35	—		52	83	7576	18
REGISTRATION DEPARTMENT	66419	93	15375	2	40182	25	9639	17	131616	37
FISCALS.										
Western Province	27127	77	10480	28	1109	35	1225	55	39942	95
North-Western Province	6233	16	5217	33	240	0	74	43	11764	92
Southern Province	11380	0	7490	0	—		560	97	19430	97
Eastern Province	4311	55	930	0	—		97	57	5339	12
Northern Province	10380	0	4919	92	—		336	63	15636	55
Central Province	18192	0	11260	98	—		458	49	29911	47
North-Central Province	910	0	710	0	—		209	75	1829	75
LOAN BOARD	5300	0	—		360	0	125	67	5785	67
ECCLESIASTICAL ESTABLISHMENTS	86903	7	1660	0	10130	0	—		98693	7
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION	38791	47	198629	1	—		—		237420	48
MEDICAL DEPARTMENT	81926	28	116636	45	16135	46	4578	11	219276	30
POLICE DEPARTMENT	23553	71	462663	32	2800	0	—		489017	3
PRISONS DEPARTMENT	10649	95	4250	0	—		—		14899	95
CONVICT ESTABLISHMENTS	12905	51	42163	48	—		—		55068	99
COLONIAL STORE	25717	58	4383	43	—		—		30101	1
CEYLON GOVT. RAILWAY	—		505205	27	2133	32	—		507338	59
CROWN AGENTS	—		4266	0	1332	99	—		5598	99
Rs.	1998530	93	2352852	94	86585	76	97737	24½	4535706	87½
£	187362	5 6	220579	19 3	8117	8 4	9162	17 4	425222	10 5

REVENUE—*continued.*

	Rs	cts.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward .	12161570	2¼	1140147	3	10
Carried forward .	12161570	2¼	1140147	3	10

EXPENDITURE—*continued.*

Services, exclusive of Establishments.	Rs	cts.	Rs	cts.	£	s.	d.
					Total.		
Brought forward	—		4535706	87½	425222	10	5
PENSIONS AND RETIRED ALLOWANCES.							
Paid in the Colony	181093	19					
Do. England	297051	34					
Do. India	25892	64					
			504037	17	47253	9	8
REVENUE SERVICES.							
Salt	155121	84					
Cinnamon	189	75					
Grain	55663	67					
Arrack	20	99					
Pearl Fishery	8855	32					
Timber	112821	79					
Assessment	7149	52					
Botanic Gardens	13290	15					
Law Expenses	7914	4					
Commission on Stamps	2609	68					
Do. on collection of Hospital Bills	69	6					
Land Sales	99665	37					
Water rates	16	43					
Licenses	1905	55					
Tolls	432	59					
Stationery	7485	30					
			473211	5	44363	10	8
ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.							
Agents of Provinces	47892	46					
Registrar, Supreme Court	37367	67					
Queen's Advocate	3392	20					
District and Police Courts	25179	48					
Fiscals	96669	38½					
			210501	19½	19736	9	9
ECCLESIASTICAL	—		3192	24	299	5	5
CHARITABLE ALLOWANCES.							
Agent, Western Province	16137	3					
North-Western Province	1966	44					
Southern do.	12179	0					
Eastern do.	4705	51					
Northern do.	7483	20					
Central do.	3712	0					
			46183	18	4329	13	8
EDUCATION	—		272514	84	25548	5	4
HOSPITALS AND SANITATION.							
Agent, Western Province	3572	21					
North-Western Province	318	18					
Southern do.	3166	25					
Eastern do.	82	79					
Northern do.	7623	42					
Central do.	2301	72					
North-Central do.	217	22					
Principal Civil Medical Officer	300373	76					
Inspector-General of Police	9728	93					
			327384	48	30692	5	11
POLICE SERVICES.							
Inspector-General of Police	—		123616	43	11589	0	9
PRISON SERVICES.							
Agent, Western Province	37081	53					
North-Western Province	19899	60					
Southern do.	38026	98					
Eastern do.	3268	76					
Northern do.	10095	91					
Central do.	68455	32					
North-Central do.	3176	8					
Superintendent of Convict Establishments	171030	12					
Inspector-General of Prisons	5781	82					
Government of Straits Settlements	210	98					
Government of India	—						
			357027	10	33471	5	10
RENT.							
Agents of Provinces	390	0					
Surveyor-General	1209	99					
Registrar-General	1297	36					
			2897	35	271	12	6
TRANSPORT.							
His Excellency the Governor	5943	14					
Secretariat	1484	84					
Treasury	17434	97					
Audit Office	317	49					
Agent, Western Province	7910	21					
North-Western Province	5317	65½					
Southern do.	6176	17					
Eastern do.	4885	5					
Northern do.	6616	96					
Central do.	8055	79					
North-Central do.	4835	0					
Carried forward	68977	27½	6836271	91	642775	9	10

REVENUE—*continued.*

	Rs	cts.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward .	12161570	2¼	1140147	3	10
By excess of Expenditure over Revenue .	333094	22¼	31227	11	8
TOTAL . . Rs	12494664	24½	£1171374	15	6

CEYLON GOVERNMENT RAILWAY.

REVENUE, 1882.—Rs. 2.638,493·04.

	Rs.	cts.	£	s.	d.
Main Line	1857732	69	174162	8	9
Náwalapitiya Line ...	290202	88	27206	10	6¾
Mátalé Line	107942	91	10119	12	11
Kalutara Line	274513	26	25735	12	4
Breakwater Line ...	88842	0	8328	18	9
Wharf Line	6523	30	611	11	2
Local Trains	12736	0	1194	0	0
Rs.	2638493	4	247358	14	5¾

EXPENDITURE, 1882.—Rs. 1,363,694·58.

	Rs.	cts.	£	s.	d.
Main Line	751315	95	70435	17	5
Náwalapitiya Line ..	216400	36	20287	10	8½
Mátalé Line	112168	43	10515	16	1½
Kalutara Line	211697	58	19846	13	0
Breakwater Line	52631	19	4934	3	5½
Wharf Line	6903	95	647	4	10½
Local Trains	12577	12	1179	2	1½
Rs.	1363694	58	127846	7	8

EXPENDITURE—*continued.*

Services exclusive of Establishments—*continued.*	Rs.	cts.	Rs.	cts.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward	68977	27½	6856271	91	642775	9	10
TRANSPORT—*contd.*							
Survey Department	15507	11					
Customs Department	285	92					
Director, Botanic Gardens	2000	0					
Do. Colombo Museum	2133	83					
Registrar-General	2042	66					
			90946	79½	8526	5	8
CONVEYANCE OF MAILS	—		252631	4	23684	3	2
WORKS AND BUILDINGS.							
New Works and Buildings	31233	15					
Alterations and Additions	1980	69					
Repairs	93386	35					
			126600	19	11868	15	4
ROADS, STREETS, AND BRIDGES.							
New Roads	19641	37					
Maintenance of Roads	1131243	38					
Toll Grants on Minor Roads	22813	75					
New Bridges	1491	37					
Repairs to Bridges	50723	60					
Maintenance of Canals	20403	24					
Irrigation Works, including Maintenance	79730	87					
Departmental Charges	138771	16					
Miscellaneous	9213	31					
			1474035	5	138190	15	8
MISCELLANEOUS.							
Colonial Secretary	44848	6					
Treasurer	80216	32					
Agent, Western Province	2653	92					
" North-Western Province	1522	45					
" Southern do.	859	0					
" Eastern do.	1791	25					
" Northern do.	5066	5					
" Central do.	21056	60					
" North-Central do.	4740	83					
Surveyor-General	590	88					
Master Attendant	10624	1					
Botanic Gardens	2173	75					
Crown Agents	23975	57					
Government and Agents in India	1235	17					
			201353	86	18876	18	6
INTEREST.							
On Dutch Kredit Brieven	1912	42					
On Breakwater Loan	209603	89					
			211516	31	19829	18	1
COLONIAL STORE	—		30376	83	2847	16	7
CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS MILITARY EXPENDITURE.							
Regular Troops	1239999	96					
Volunteer Corps	27620	5					
			1267620	1	118839	7	6
GOVERNMENT VESSELS	—		49819	72	4670	11	11
REFUND OF DUTIES, DRAWBACKS, &c.	—		52778	34	4947	19	5
LANDS TAKEN FOR GOVERNMENT PURPOSES	—		15825	0	1483	12	1
IMMIGRATION	—		93201	68	8737	13	1
RAILWAY SERVICES.							
Interest and Sinking Fund, Main Line	156185	75					
Interest, Matale Railway	132131	46					
" Nanu-oya Railway	484961	69					
Maintenance and Working Expenses	856355	99					
			1629534	89	152768	17	11
TELEGRAPH SERVICES	—		111740	8	10475	12	8
EXCHANGE	—		30412	54	2851	3	6
TOTAL . Rs			12494664	24½	1171374	15	6

EXPENDITURE on Drafts from Balances.	Rs.	cts.	£	s.	d.
Works and Buildings.					
New Works and Buildings ...	2,473	32			
Repairs to Buildings ...	23	75			
Roads, Streets, and Bridges.					
New Roads	8,000	0			
Maintenance of Roads ...	158	0			
Irrigation Works	5,658	51			
Departmental charges ...	374	42			
Miscellaneous	13,521	7			
	30,209	7	2,832	2	0

EXPENDITURE under the Surplus Funds Ordinance, No. 13 of 1879.	Rs.	cts	£	s.	d.
New Roads	67	60			
Electric Telegraph	36,349	12			
Railway Service	87,026	23			
	123,442	95	—		

Audit Office,
Colombo, 15th June, 1883.

W. H. RAVENSCROFT,
Auditor-General and Controller of Revenue.

II.—COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF THE REVENUE OF THE COLONY FOR THE YEARS 1881 AND 1882.

	Revenue of 1881.		Revenue of 1882.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	Rs	cts.	Rs	cts.	Rs	cts.	Rs	cts.
1.—ARREARS OF REVENUE of former years	438948	20¾	424501	15	—		14447	5¾
2.—CUSTOMS.								
Imports, &c.	2875137	10	2689203	92	—		185933	18
Royalty on Plumbago	64302	71	61248	86	—		3053	85
3.—PORT AND HARBOUR DUES.								
Port Clearances	104499	80	113663	72	9163	92	—	
Boats and Moorings	14973	50	3183	75	—		11789	75
Pilotage	27834	75	42936	0	15101	25	—	
4.—LAND SALES.								
Waste Lands	408703	59½	271250	5½	—		137453	54
Cinnamon Gardens	—		—		—		—	
5.—LAND REVENUE.								
Paddy	732763	76	746230	87½	13467	11½	—	
Fine Grain	61996	46½	48284	44	—		13712	2½
Gardens	11046	34	6454	13	—		4592	21
Tythes redeemed	3588	47	2822	39	—		766	8
Rent of Lands	13923	34	14498	59	575	25	—	
Royalty on Cabook	168	40	13	63	—		154	77
Licenses on Plumbago	1642	99	2585	57	942	58	—	
Cinnamon	16	0	28	50	12	50	—	
Sundries	72	40	1085	6	1012	66	—	
6.—RENTS, EXCLUSIVE OF LANDS.								
Bridges, Canals, &c.	341894	66	347745	96	5851	30	—	
Government Buildings and Houses	37708	9	35487	66	—		2220	43
7.—LICENSES.								
Arrack, Rum, and Toddy	1547502	44	1477952	88	—		69549	56
Stills	7360	0	19100	0	11740	0	—	
Wholesale dealers	790	0	600	0	—		190	0
Retail of Salt	—		41030	0	41030	0	—	
Opium	3300	0	2500	0	—		800	0
Chanks	4080	15	5489	23	1409	8	—	
Royalty on Elephants	400	0	1000	0	600	0	—	
8.—STAMPS.								
General	795489	66	743447	46	—		52042	20
Composition Duty	51573	83	53970	6	2396	23	—	
9.—TAXES.								
Assessment on Houses	27861	78	31308	36	3446	58	—	
10.—POSTAGE.								
Stamps	227615	20	221213	12½	—		6402	7½
On Letters, &c.	20727	50	20702	25	—		25	25
11.—FINES AND FORFEITURES.								
Supreme, District, and Police Courts	49981	93½	45329	65	—		4652	28½
Government Agents	333	62	237	32	—		96	30
Other Departments	1658	14	25271	26	23613	12	—	
12.—GOVERNMENT VESSELS	37036	6	54668	37	17632	31	—	
13.—SALE OF GOVERNMENT PROPERTY.								
Salt	851004	57	827125	99	—		23878	58
Arrack and Rum	5456	0	166	40	—		5289	60
Colonial Store	216950	86	14568	87	—		202381	99
Timber	222145	96½	141975	14	—		80170	82½
Weights and Measures	99	76	121	1	21	25	—	
Unserviceable Tools	6619	75	3834	79	—		2784	96
Produce of Botanic Gardens	8360	83	3653	25	—		4707	58
Crops growing on Crown Lands	1253	81	1343	89½	90	8½	—	
Sale of Delft Horses	507	0	—		—		507	0
Incidentals	6329	4	1679	13	—		4649	91
Carried over	9233658	47¾	8549512	70	148105	23	832251	0¾

	Revenue of 1881.		Revenue of 1882.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	Rs	cts.	Rs	cts.	Rs	cts.	Rs	cts.
Brought forward -	9233658	47¾	8549512	70	148105	23	832251	0¾
14.—REIMBURSEMENTS.								
Hospital Stoppages - -	4677	4	3258	28	—		1418	76
Government Gazette - -	8031	27	8939	58	908	31	—	
School Fees, Books, Stationery, &c. -	27874	82	27554	65½	—		320	16½
Irrigation Works - -	16503	0½	34575	37½	18072	37	—	
Survey Fees - -	63994	91	52827	32	—		11167	59
Maintenance of Prisoners -	3972	56	2811	94	—		1160	62
Value of Tools lost - -	7638	64	6016	56	—		1622	8
Value of Prison Labour - -	17986	74	15074	66	—		2912	8
Refund of Civil Hospital expenses -	11273	1	11602	25	329	24	—	
Passage Money of Immigrant Coolies -	12762	0	11709	25	—		1052	75
Collections at Cemeteries -	3400	47	3067	35	—		333	12
Storage of Gunpowder - -	2937	38	1452	44	—		1484	94
Assessment Tax - -	922	93	1197	49	274	56	—	
Cost of Police within Municipalities -	126778	41	111661	6	—		15117	35
Incidental - - -	28698	4	50491	81	21793	77	—	
15.—MISCELLANEOUS RECEIPTS.								
Deficiency of Troops - -	98041	67	—		—		98041	67
Overpayments recovered - -	264840	77	268608	57¾	3767	80¾	—	
Contribution to Widows' Pension Fund	1551	83	1225	10	—		326	73
Pioneer Pension Contribution -	7230	40	6213	30	—		1017	10
Unclaimed Deposits - -	23856	49	28239	28	4382	79	—	
Incidental - - -	26817	86½	51595	10½	24777	24	—	
16.—INTEREST.								
On Loan Board Funds - -	24621	79	24320	80	—		300	99
On Arrears of Revenue - -	26459	86	25599	2	—		860	84
On Investments - -	97718	42	163505	67	65787	25	—	
17.—PEARL FISHERY - -	599533	0	629	44	—		598903	56
18.—SPECIAL RECEIPTS.								
Fees for Title Deeds - -	9804	54	6934	39	—		2870	15
Incidental - - -	4	49	15	91	11	42	—	
19.—RAILWAY RECEIPTS -	2880090	67	2638493	4	—		241597	63
20.—TELEGRAPH RECEIPTS -	54810	48	54537	67	—		372	81
Rs	13686491	97¾	12161570	2¼	288209	98¾	1813131	94¼
£	1283108 12	5¼	1140147 3	9½	—			
Deduct Increase Rs							288209	98¾
Nett Decrease ... Rs							1524921	95½

REMARKS.

No. 1.—Arrears of Revenue. The decrease is due to the prevailing depression and the consequent difficulty of realizing the full value of securities hypothecated by Renters in default.

" 2.—Customs. The decrease is caused by the decline in the importation of grain and other dutiable goods, as also in the exportation of plumbago.

" 3.—Port and Harbour Dues. An increase in the number and tonnage of vessels inwards and outwards accounts for the increase of receipts under this head.

" 4.—Land Sales. The extent of land sold in 1882 was less than that sold in 1881.

" 5.—Land Revenue. The increase under the head "Paddy" is due to good crops harvested in the North-Western and Southern Provinces. Under the head "Fine Grain" there was a decrease in the North-Western and Northern Provinces, due partly to an abundance of paddy in the former, and to a bad season in the latter Province. There has also been a decrease under the head "Gardens rented" in the Western Province, owing, probably, to the prevailing depression.

" 6.—Rents, exclusive of Land. Owing to more punctual payment of instalments there is a slight increase under the head of "Toll Rents" for 1882, as compared with 1881, although the rents generally were sold for the year 1882 for a smaller sum than for 1881. The decrease in rent of "Government Buildings" is chiefly due to a reduction in the rent of the premises occupied by the Wharf and Warehouse Company, Limited.

7.—Licenses. The decrease in the receipt under "Arrack, &c." is partly due to the sales having realized less for 1882 than for the preceding year, and partly to default of payment of instalments within the year. There has however been an increase in receipts from Stills and Chanks, which partially compensated for the above decrease. The increase in licenses for "Retail of Salt" is only nominal, as a corresponding decrease is shown under the head "Sale of Government Property;" in 1881 salt in Jaffna District was sold in aumany.

No. 8.—STAMPS. The large decrease under this head is owing to the general depression in the Island trade and industries.

„ 9.—TAXES. The delay in fixing by Proclamation of Government the rates of assessment taxes leviable in the Central Province reduced the collection under this head for 1881, and the collection for 1882 consequently shows an increase as compared with the former year.

„ 10.—POSTAGE. The revenue under this head has also been affected by the prevailing depression.

„ 11.—FINES AND FORFEITURES. A portion of the amount deposited as security by the Jaffna and Agricultural Company was forfeited for non-fulfilment of their agreement with the Government, and the amount was brought to credit under this head : hence the increase.

„ 12.—GOVERNMENT VESSELS. The increase is owing to there having been no interruption to the working of the Colonial Steamer "Serendib" as in the preceding year.

„ 13.—SALE OF GOVERNMENT PROPERTY. The decrease in Salt is only nominal : there was really an increase of revenue from sale of this article ; a portion of the receipts on account of sale of salt was classified under the head "Licenses." The decrease in "Arrack and Rum" is the result of there having been no Pearl Fishery in 1882 ; that under the head "Colonial Store" is owing to the transfer in 1881 of the value of stationery to Revenue ; and under "Timber" to diminished demand for timber.

„ 14.—REIMBURSEMENTS. The increase is chiefly in the recovery of the cost of Irrigation Works, the season having proved more favourable than in the preceding year. The decrease is chiefly in Survey fees owing to a diminution in the extent of land sold, and in cost of Police within the Municipality, owing to the amounts due for a portion of 1882 not having been paid within the year. The other items of receipts are casual and fluctuating.

„ 15.—MISCELLANEOUS RECEIPTS. The decrease is chiefly under the head "Deficiency of Troops," no refund on this account having been received in 1882. The other items of receipts are casual and fluctuating, and call for no remarks.

„ 16.—INTEREST. The increase is chiefly in interest received by the Crown Agents on short loans.

„ 17.—PEARL FISHERY. There was no Pearl Fishery this year. The amount recovered in 1882 was the rent of the Fishery in the Tamblagam Lake.

„ 19.—RAILWAY RECEIPTS. The stagnation of trade and the industries of the Island continue to affect the receipts under this head. The Matalé Branch, opened in October, 1880, is working at a loss, the receipts in 1882 being Rs. 4,225·52 less than the working expenses.

„ 20.—TELEGRAPH RECEIPTS. The small decrease on this head of receipt hardly calls for any observation.

Audit Office,
Colombo, 15th June, 1883.

W. H. RAVENSCROFT,
Auditor-General and Controller of Revenue.

III.—COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF THE EXPENDITURE OF THE COLONY OF CEYLON FOR THE YEARS 1881 AND 1882.

		Expenditure of 1881.		Expenditure of 1882.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	ESTABLISHMENTS, INCLUDING FIXED AND PROVISIONAL SALARIES, ALLOWANCES, AND OFFICE CONTINGENCIES.								
	CIVIL ESTABLISHMENTS.	Rs	cts.	Rs	cts.	Rs	cts.	Rs	cts.
1	His Excellency the Governor -	95995	27	94427	91	—		1567	36
2	Secretariat - -	183911	70	191352	72	7441	2	—	
3	Treasury - -	35122	59	35498	35	375	76	—	
4	Audit Office - -	56912	54	57475	77	563	23	—	
	PROVINCIAL AGENCIES.								
5	Western Province - -	143934	98	142624	0	—		1310	98
6	North-Western Province - -	77962	45½	77471	20½	—		491	25
7	Southern do. - -	109522	51	109571	47	48	96	—	
8	Eastern do. - -	63760	39	64145	65	385	26	—	
9	Northern do. - -	106956	82	100186	10	—		6770	72
10	Central do. - -	140567	90	143774	19	3206	29	—	
11	North-Central do. - -	43637	28	40523	61	—		3113	67
12	Public Works Department -	315169	41	292483	24	—		22686	17
13	Survey Department - -	258607	77	257586	21	—		1021	56
14	Customs Department - -	146995	99	146310	93	—		685	6
15	Harbour Department - -	44254	45	49235	72	4981	27	—	
16	Postal and Telegraph Department -	125944	62	195198	74	69254	12	—	
17	Director, Royal Botanic Gardens -	22955	68	20475	56	—		2480	12
18	Director of Colombo Museum -	19875	31	16323	45	—		3551	86
19	Agent, Colonial Steamer "Serendib" -	22983	20	27899	98	4916	78	—	
	JUDICIAL ESTABLISHMENTS.								
20	Supreme Court Judges - -	67299	96	59712	58	—		7587	38
21	Registry of the Supreme Court -	23120	6	22311	53	—		808	53
22	Queen's Advocate and Deputies -	60622	97	64561	10	3938	13	—	
	DISTRICT COURTS, POLICE COURTS, AND COURTS OF REQUESTS.								
23	Western Province - -	127514	78	128963	28	1448	50	—	
24	North-Western Province - -	41494	26	38794	42	—		2699	84
25	Southern do. - -	73244	99	72394	18	—		850	81
26	Eastern do. - -	19103	30	18659	32	—		443	98
27	Central do. - -	101520	58	99786	55	—		1734	3
28	Northern do. - -	46651	6	46268	9	—		387	97
29	North-Central do. - -	3131	50	3023	84	—		107	66
30	Itinerating District Judge -	4799	77	—		—		4799	77
31	Registration Department - -	127008	57	131616	37	4607	80	—	
	FISCALS.								
32	Western Province - -	41041	48	39942	95	—		1098	53
33	North-Western Province - -	11605	94	11764	92	158	98	—	
34	Southern do. - -	19662	44	19430	97	—		231	47
35	Eastern do. - -	5510	9	5339	12	—		170	97
36	Northern do. - -	15704	45	15636	55	—		67	90
37	Central do. - -	29604	18	29911	47	307	29	—	
38	North-Central do. - -	1751	60	1829	75	78	15	—	
39	Loan Board - - -	5728	95	5785	67	56	72	—	
40	Ecclesiastical Establishments -	99751	50	98693	7	—		1058	43
41	Public Instruction - -	230521	80	237420	48	6898	68	—	
42	Medical Department - -	234513	26	219276	30	—		15236	96
43	Police Department - -	496715	45	489017	3	—		7698	42
44	Prisons Department - -	14636	52	14899	95	263	43	—	
45	Convict Establishment - -	54971	25	55068	99	97	74	—	
46	Colonial Store - -	28873	20	30101	1	1227	81	—	
47	Ceylon Government Railway -	515057	34	507338	59	—		7718	75
48	Crown Agents - -	5599	63	5598	99	—		0	64
	Rs	4521831	74½	4535706	87½	110255	92	96380	79
	£	423921 14	6	425222 10	5	10336 9	10	9035 13	11

[*continued over*]

		Expenditure of 1881.			Expenditure of 1882.			Increase.			Decrease.		
	SERVICES, EXCLUSIVE OF ESTABLISHMENTS.	Rs		cts.	Rs		cts.	Rs		cts.	Rs		cts.
49	Pensions and Retired Allowances -	506699		67	504037		17	—			2662		50
50	Revenue Services - -	650716		68	473211		5	—			177505		63
51	Administration of Justice - -	215989		44½	210501		19½	—			5488		25
52	Ecclesiastical - -	3000		0	3192		24	192		24	—		
53	Charitable Allowances - -	47122		40½	46183		18	—			939		22½
54	Education - -	273779		0	272514		84	—			1264		16
55	Hospitals and Sanitation - -	316513		72	327384		48	10870		76	—		
56	Police Services - -	163017		49	123616		43	—			39401		6
57	Prison Services - -	340803		60	357027		10	16223		50	—		
58	Rent - -	3402		50	2897		35	—			505		15
59	Transport - -	100456		66½	90946		79½	—			9509		87
60	Conveyance of Mails - -	251109		42	252631		4	1521		62	—		
61	Works and Buildings - -	135342		5	126600		19	—			8741		86
62	Roads, Streets, Bridges and Canals -	1650890		5	1474035		5	—			176855		0
63	Miscellaneous Services - -	256977		17	201353		86	—			55623		31
64	Interest - - -	186741		26	211516		31	24775		5	—		
64*b*	Redemption of Kredit Brieven -	1982		40	—			—			1982		40
65	Colonial Store - -	187303		68	30376		83	—			156926		85
66	Contribution towards Military Expenditure - - -	1276316		87	1267620		1	—			8696		86
67	Government Vessels - -	166001		42	49819		72	—			116181		70
68	Refund of Duties, Drawbacks, &c. -	47013		96	52778		34	5764		38	—		
69	Lands taken for Government purposes -	1966		25	15825		0	13858		75	—		
70	Immigration - - -	104254		33	93201		68	—			11052		65
71	Railway Services - -	1880149		54	1629534		89	—			250614		65
71½	Railway Construction - -	—			—			—			—		
72	Electric Telegraph - -	198128		0	111740		8	—			86387		92
73	Exchange - -	45749		74	30412		54	—			15337		20
	Rs	9011427		31½	7958957		37	73206		30	1125676		24½
	£	844821	6	3	746152	5	1	6863	1	10	105532	3	0
	RECAPITULATION.												
	Establishments - -	4521831		71½	4535706		87½	110255		92	96380		79
	Services, exclusive of Establishments -	9011427		31½	7958957		37	73206		30	1125676		24½
	Rs	13533259		6	12494664		24½	183462		22	1222057		3½
	TOTAL—£	1268743	0	9	1171374	15	6	17199	11	8	114567	16	11

Audit Office,
Colombo, 15th June, 1883.

W. H. RAVENSCROFT,
Auditor-General and Controller of Revenue.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT OF THE FOREGOING.

	Rs	cts.	Rs	cts.	Rs	cts.
CIVIL ESTABLISHMENTS.						
1.—HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.						
Decrease on Fixed Salaries - - - -			1701	2		
Increase on Provisional Salaries - - -	133	29				
Do. Contingencies - - -	0	37				
			133	66		
Nett Decrease -					1567	36
2.—SECRETARIAT.						
Increase on Fixed Salaries - - -	13477	29				
Do. Contingencies - - -	2433	62	15910	51		
Decrease on Provisional Salaries - - -			8469	89		
Nett Increase -					7441	2
3.—TREASURY.						
Increase on Provisional Salaries - - - -			30	0		
Do. Allowances - - - -			16	56		
Do. Contingencies - - - -			329	10		
Gross Increase -					375	76
4.—AUDIT OFFICE.						
Increase on Contingencies - - - -			—		563	23
PROVINCIAL AGENCIES :—						
5.—*Western Province.*						
Decrease on Fixed Salaries - - - -			47	13		
Do. Provisional Salaries - - - -			119	62		
Do. Allowances - - - -			90	0		
Do. Contingencies - - - -			1054	23		
Gross Decrease -					1310	98

	Rs	cts.	Rs	cts.	Rs	cts.
6.—*North-Western Province.*						
Decrease on Fixed Salaries	17	78				
Do. Contingencies	936	56				
			954	34		
Increase on Provisional Salaries			463	9		
Nett Decrease					491	25
7.—*Southern Province.*						
Increase on Fixed Salaries	135	38				
Do. Provisional Salaries	254	67	390	5		
Decrease on Allowances	15	0				
Do. Contingencies	326	9				
			341	9		
Nett Increase					48	96
8.—*Eastern Province.*						
Increase on Fixed Salaries	332	96				
Do. on Provisional Salaries	140	88				
			473	84		
Decrease on Contingencies			88	58		
Nett Increase					385	26
9.—*Northern Province.*						
Decrease on Fixed Salaries	5454	54				
Do. Provisional Salaries	1276	22				
Do. Allowances	100	0				
			6833	76		
Increase on Contingencies			63	4		
Nett Decrease					6770	72
10.—*Central Province.*						
Increase on Fixed Salaries			166	49		
Do. Provisional Salaries			2179	92		
Do. Contingencies			859	88		
Gross Increase					3206	29
11.—*North-Central Province.*						
Decrease on Fixed Salaries			131	58		
Do. Provisional Salaries			2882	26		
Do. Contingencies			99	83		
Gross Decrease					3113	67
12.—Public Works Department.						
Decrease on Fixed Salaries			2711	18		
Do. Provisional Salaries			19033	40		
Do. Contingencies			941	59		
Gross Decrease					22686	17
13.—Survey Department.						
Decrease on Provisional Salaries			2121	98		
Increase on Fixed Salaries			1100	42		
Nett Decrease					1021	56
14.—Customs Department.						
Decrease on Provisional Salaries			1805	33		
Do. Fixed Salaries	394	3				
Do. Contingencies	726	24				
			1120	27		
Nett Decrease					685	6
15.—Harbour Department.						
Increase on Fixed Salaries			116	9		
Do. Provisional Salaries			3961	74		
Do. Allowances			432	9		
Do. Contingencies			471	35		
Gross Increase					4981	27
16.—Postal and Telegraph Department.						
Increase on Provisional Salaries			70378	32		
Decrease on Fixed Salaries			1124	20		
Nett Increase					69254	12
17.—Director, Botanic Gardens.						
Decrease on Fixed Salaries			125	27		
Do. Provisional Salaries			1997	20		
Do. Contingencies			357	65		
Gross Decrease					2480	12
18.—Director of Colombo Museum.						
Decrease on Provisional Salaries			2773	32		
Do. Contingencies			778	54		
Gross Decrease					3551	86
19.—Agent, Colonial Steamer "Serendib."						
Increase on Provisional Salaries			3433	70		
Do. Allowances			1483	8		
Gross Increase					4916	78
JUDICIAL ESTABLISHMENTS.						
20.—Supreme Court Judges.						
Increase on Fixed Salaries			—		7587	38
21.—Registrar, Supreme Court.						
Decrease on Fixed Salaries			724	51		
Do. Contingencies			84	2		
Gross Decrease					808	53
22.—Queen's Advocate and Deputies.						
Increase on Provisional Salaries			4111	48		
Decrease on Fixed Salaries	136	55				
Do. Contingencies	36	80				
			173	35		
Nett Decrease					3938	13

District Courts, Courts of Requests, and Police Courts.	Rs.	cts.	Rs.	cts.	Rs.	cts.
23.—*Western Province.*						
Increase on Fixed Salaries	1219	41				
Do. Provisional Salaries	740	55				
			1959	96		
Decrease on Contingencies			511	46		
Nett Increase					1448	50
24.—*North-Western Province.*						
Decrease on Fixed Salaries			1962	91		
Do. Provisional Salaries			699	25		
Do. Contingencies			37	68		
Gross Decrease					2699	84
25.—*Southern Province.*						
Decrease on Fixed Salaries			349	63		
Do. Provisional Salaries			407	22		
Do. Contingencies			93	96		
Gross Decrease					850	81
26.—*Eastern Province.*						
Decrease on Fixed Salaries			333	33		
Do. Provisional Salaries			66	70		
Do. Contingencies			43	95		
Gross Decrease					443	98
27.—*Northern Province.*						
Decrease on Fixed Salaries			299	59		
Do. Provisional Salaries			39	60		
Do. Contingencies			48	78		
Gross Decrease					387	97
28.—*Central Province.*						
Decrease on Fixed Salaries	1790	37				
Do. Provisional Salaries	101	53				
			1891	90		
Increase on Contingencies			157	87		
Nett Decrease					1734	3
29.—*North-Central Province.*						
Decrease on Fixed Salaries	90	2				
Do. Provisional Salaries	66	64				
			156	66		
Increase on Contingencies			49	0		
Nett Decrease					107	66
30.—Itinerating District Judge.						
Decrease on Provisional Salaries			—		4799	77
31.—Registration Department.						
Increase on Provisional Salaries	127	53				
Do. Allowances	2495	75				
Do. Contingencies	2488	72				
			5112	0		
Decrease on Fixed Salaries			504	20		
Nett Increase					4607	80
Fiscals.						
32.—*Western Province.*						
Decrease on Fixed Salaries	681	95				
Do. Provisional Salaries	485	31				
Do. Allowances	0	65				
			1167	91		
Increase on Contingencies			69	38		
Nett Decrease					1098	53
33.—*North-Western Province.*						
Increase on Fixed Salaries	109	80				
Do. Provisional Salaries	49	68				
			159	48		
Decrease on Contingencies			0	50		
Nett Increase					158	98
34.—*Southern Province.*						
Decrease on Contingencies			231	47		
35.—*Eastern Province.*						
Decrease on Fixed Salaries			216	31		
Increase on Contingencies			45	34		
Nett Decrease					170	97
36.—*Northern Province.*						
Decrease on Contingencies			121	71		
Increase on Fixed Salaries	43	89				
Do. Provisional Salaries	9	92				
			53	81		
Nett Decrease					67	90
37.—*Central Province.*						
Increase on Fixed Salaries			10	0		
Do. Provisional Salaries			80	77		
Do. Contingencies			216	52		
Gross Increase					307	29
38.—*North-Central Province.*						
Increase on Fixed Salaries			1	69		
Do. Contingencies			76	46		
Gross Increase					78	15
39.—Loan Board.						
Increase on Contingencies			—		56	72

	Rs	cts.	Rs	cts.	Rs	cts.
40.—Ecclesiastical Department.						
Decrease on Provisional Salaries - - -	655	0				
Do. Allowances - - -	740	0				
			1395	0		
Increase on Fixed Salaries - - -		-	336	57		
Nett Decrease -					1058	43
41.—Public Instruction.						
Increase on Fixed Salaries - - -		-	1042	13		
Do. Provisional Salaries - - -		-	5856	55		
Gross Increase -					6898	68
42.—Medical Department.						
Decrease on Fixed Salaries - - -	2437	36				
Do. Provisional Salaries - - -	12270	11				
Do. Contingencies - - -	641	18				
			15348	65		
Increase on Allowances - - -		-	111	69		
Nett Decrease -					15236	96
43.—Police Department.						
Decrease on Fixed Salaries - - -		-	40	45		
Do. Provisional Salaries - - -		-	7657	97		
Gross Decrease -					7698	42
44.—Prisons Department.						
Increase on Fixed Salaries - - -		-	6	77		
Do. Provisional Salaries - - -		-	256	66		
Gross Increase -					263	43
45.—Convict Establishment.						
Increase on Fixed Salaries - - -		-	868	12		
Decrease on Provisional Salaries - - -		-	770	38		
Nett Increase -					97	74
46.—Colonial Store.						
Increase on Fixed Salaries - - -		-	90	15		
Do. Provisional Salaries - - -		-	1137	66		
Gross Increase -					1227	81
47.—Ceylon Government Railway.						
Increase on Provisional Salaries - - -		-	—		7718	75
48—Crown Agents.						
Decrease on Provisional Salaries - - -		-	—		0	64

49.—Pensions.—The decrease of expenditure under this head is the nett production on pensions payable in England and India.

50.—Revenue Services.—A large expenditure was incurred in 1881 on account of the importation of salt from India, and on the Pearl Fishery. This expenditure was not necessary in 1882, and these are the chief causes of the reduction of the expenditure under this head.

51.—Administration of Justice.—The decrease under this head of service is due to the fact that owing to comparatively short Sessions of the Supreme Court the charge for batta to witnesses, &c., was less in amount than that incurred during the preceding year. A larger decrease of expenditure would have appeared were it not that the charge for stationery was this year for the first time debited to this head of service.

52.—Ecclesiastical.—Stationery issued to the Ecclesiastical Department was this year charged under this head instead of being issued free as heretofore: hence the small increase.

53.—Charitable Allowances.—A grant for relief of some of the people in the Bintenna district was made in 1881. No similar grant was required during 1882: hence the decrease under this head.

54.—Education.—The small decrease under this head is the nett savings on the several sub-heads of expenditure allowed for this service.

55.—Hospitals and Sanitation.—Wages of attendants, &c., were brought to account in 1882 under this head of service instead of under the head "Provisional Salaries:" this accounts for the apparent increase.

56.—Police Service.—The decrease is accounted for partly by the savings effected on cost of uniform and partly because the votes of 1881 were debited with cost of arms, &c., obtained from England in 1880.

57.—Prison Service.—An increase in the number of prisoners maintained in the Convict Establishment and in the Provincial Prisons, caused the increase of expenditure under this head.

58.—Rent.—The small reduction under this head is the result of savings effected by the Departments of the Government Agent, Western Province, and the Registrar-General.

59.—Transport.—The decrease is caused by a diminution of expenditure under this head effected by most of the Departments.

60.—Conveyance of Mails.—Compared with the gross expenditure of the department under this head, the increase is so small that it hardly calls for any observation.

61 & 62.—Works and Buildings.—Roads, Streets, and Bridges.—Owing to the falling off in revenue the expenditure sanctioned for 1882 under these heads was smaller than that for the preceding year; the actual expenditure is therefore proportionately less.

63.—Miscellaneous Services.—The cost of taking the Census in 1881 contributed to swell the expenditure of that year under this head: hence the apparent decrease in 1882.

64.—Interest.—The first half-yearly contribution of the Sinking Fund for the extinction of the loans raised on debentures for the construction of the Colombo Harbour Works which became due in November, 1882, was paid this year. This has caused an increase of expenditure.

65.—Colonial Store.—This apparent decrease has been caused by the cost of stationery issued to the several Public Departments being now charged and paid for from the votes allowed to such Departments instead of being paid as hitherto in a lump sum under this head.

66.—Contribution towards Military Expenditure.—The expenditure shows a reduction this year because there was no charge as in 1881 on account of arms, &c., for the Volunteers.

67.—GOVERNMENT VESSELS.—The Colonial Steamer "Serendib" did not require such extensive repairs in 1882 as in the preceding year: hence the reduction in expenditure.

68.—REFUND OF DUTIES, ETC.—This is a fluctuating expenditure, resulting this year in an excess over the expenditure of the preceding year.

69.—LANDS TAKEN FOR GOVERNMENT PURPOSES.—The same remark as the foregoing applies to this head of expenditure.

70.—IMMIGRATION.—The decrease is consequent upon the falling off in the number of immigrant labourers from Southern India.

71.—RAILWAY SERVICES.—The decrease is chiefly owing to the annual contribution to the Sinking Fund for the redemption of debentures issued on loans obtained for the construction of the railway from Colombo to Kandy having ceased to be paid from the general revenue, sufficient funds being in the hands of the trustees to meet all claims until the final extinction of the debt.

72.—TELEGRAPH SERVICES.—The decrease is chiefly owing to the salaries of the officers having been brought to account in 1882 under the head "Provisional Salaries" instead of under this head of service as in the preceding year.

73.—EXCHANGE.—The decrease under this head of expenditure is due to the fact that almost all the charges incurred in England were debited in 1882 to their respective votes at the current rate of exchange.

Audit Office,
Colombo, 15th June, 1883.

W. H. RAVENSCROFT,
Auditor-General and Controller of Revenue.

IV.—STATEMENT showing the ASSETS and LIABILITIES of the Government of Ceylon on the 31st December, 1882.

ASSETS.	Rs.	cts.	Rs.	cts.	£	s.	d.
Cash in the hands of the Crown Agents - -	108899	25					
Cash in the General Treasury and District Chests - -	1109405	60¼					
			1218304	85¼			
Invested in England in Colonial Stocks - -			523200	0			
Do. on short loans - -			778689	63			
Loans to Municipal Council, Kandy - -			241846	45			
Interest due by Municipal Council, Kandy - -			37182	46			
Recoverable advances on account of Harbour Works - -	3115632	34					
Do. do. Railway Extension Surveys - -	44480	93					
Do. do. Mátalé Railway - -	166800	67					
Do. do. Colombo Waterworks - -	2237424	50					
Do. do. Seed Paddy - - -	53636	33					
Do. do. Stores for use of Public Service -	826425	31					
Do. do. Volunteer Corps - -	21200	0					
Do. do. Municipal Council, Kandy - -	10000	0					
Do. do. Industrial School, Kandy - -	9980	0					
Do. do. Master of the "Ceylon" on account of Board of Trade - - -	21640	0					
Sundry of other recoverable advances - - -	147674	94					
			6654895	2			
Amount due by Hotels Company on account of land transferred -			6000	0			
Amount due by the Government of Straits Settlements -			958	66			
Do. do. Mauritius - -			12	50			
Advance by the Crown Agents to Nánu-oya Railway - -	70448	65					
Do. do. Railway materials - -	32830	16					
Do. do. Railway Contractors -	197638	59					
Sundry payments by the Crown Agents to be recovered -	11785	27					
			312702	77			
Recoverable arrears of revenue - - -			700000	0			
Surcharges outstanding - - -			250000	0			
			10723792	34¼	1005355	10	7½
LIABILITIES							
Deposits—General - - -	8142519	47					
Lapsed Loan Board - - -	62043	19					
Drafts and Remittances - - -	358891	16					
Balance due to Government of India - - -	260553	87					
Do. Agents, Calcutta - - -	88	94					
Do. Agents, Bombay - - -	441	42					
Do. Agents, Madras - - -	186	36					
Temporary advance from the Local Banks - -	11072	13					
Family Remittances outstanding - - -	32164	57					
Bills on London in transit - - -	366878	98					
Unexpended balances of ordinary votes brought forward for expenditure in 1883 - - -	26991	62					
Unexpended balances of votes on Surplus Funds Ordinance, No. 13 of 1879 - - - -	118108	97					
Excess of Assets over Liabilities - -	—		9379940	68	879369	8	9
Total Assets - - -	—		1343851	66¼	125986	1	10½

Audit Office,
Colombo, 15th June, 1883.

W. H. RAVENSCROFT,
Auditor-General and Controller of Revenue.

V.—STATEMENT OF THE CASH TRANSACTIONS OF THE COLONY FOR THE YEAR 1882.

	Rs	cts.	£	s.	d.
To Balance on the 31st December, 1881	1,363,663	44¼			
Gross Revenue for the year	12,161,570	2¼			
Drafts drawn during the year	8,995,421	9			
Deposits during the year	8,756,058	75½			
Remittances received	3,862,191	47			
Advances repaid	4,776,359	91			
Sums placed to the credit of Her Majesty's Government	958	56			
Do. Government of India	241,486	95			
Do. Straits Government	2,262	42			
Do. Agents at Calcutta	807	72			
Do. Agents at Bombay	6,880	44			
Do. Agents at Madras	5,528	98			
Do. Crown Agents	6,004,766	26			
Receipts of the Crown Agents	9,773,834	18			
Temporary Loans from Local Banks	11,072	13			
Total ...	55,962,862	33	5,246,518	6	9

	Rs	cts.	£	s.	d.
By Gross Expenditure of the year, viz.:—					
On Votes of the year	12,494,664	24½			
Against Balances of previous year	30,209	7			
On votes allowed by Surplus Funds Ordinance, No. 13 of 1879	123,442	95			
	12,648,316	26½			
By Drafts paid during the year	8,931,555	76			
Payments from deposits	12,166,818	42¼			
Remittances made	3,723,985	54			
Advances made	7,166,395	13			
Sums debited to Her Majesty's Government	958	56			
Do. Government of India	14,601	70			
Do. Straits Government	2,267	58			
Do. Agents at Calcutta	9,353	0			
Do. Agents at Madras	6,412	41			
Do. Agents at Bombay	66,733	38			
Do. Crown Agents	164,547	24			
Do. Mauritius Government	12	50			
Disbursements made by the Crown Agents	9,794,653	53			
Temporary loans from Oriental Bank Corporation repaid	47,946	46			
By Balance on the 31st December, 1882, viz.:—					
In the Colony (Rs 108,899 25)					
In England (Rs 1,109,405 60¼)	1,218,304	85¼			
Total ...	55,962,862	33	5,246,518	6	9

Audit Office,
Colombo, 15th June, 1883.

W. H. RAVENSCROFT,
Auditor-General and Controller of Revenue.

VI.—STATEMENT showing the BALANCE of the Ceylon Government AVAILABLE FOR APPROPRIATION on 31st December, 1882.

NIL.

Audit Office,
Colombo, 15th June, 1883.

W. H. RAVENSCROFT,
Auditor-General and Controller of Revenue.

VII.—*STATEMENT showing the REVENUE and EXPENDITURE of the Colony of Ceylon for the Nine months ended 30th September, 1882.*

REVENUE.	Rs.	cts.
Arrears of revenue of former years recovered	361,607	64
Revenue of the Current Year.		
Customs	2,130,092	68
Port and Harbour Dues	119,018	19
Land Sales	20,2253	0½
Land Revenue	644,637	40
Rents, exclusive of Lands	270,208	90
Licenses	1,079,213	25
Stamps	634,344	60
Taxes—Assessment on Houses and Gardens	14,334	44
Postal	177,090	31½
Fines and Forfeitures	34,676	57
Government Vessels	43.584	79
Sale of Government Property	691,885	94
Reimbursements in aid of expenses incurred by Government	262,062	39½
Interest	120,344	51
Miscellaneous Receipts	222,938	23
Special Receipts	5,203	88
Pearl Fishery	482	68
Railway Receipts	2,043,919	73
Telegraph Receipts	15,185	79
Rs. ...	9,073,084	93½

EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	cts.
Establishments.		
Fixed Salaries	1,437,444	18
Provisional and Temporary Salaries	1,667,842	51
Allowances	32,310	8
Office Contingencies	94,691	55½
Services, exclusive of Establishments.		
Pensions and Retired Allowances	281,065	54
Revenue Services	270,639	24
Administration of Justice ...	143,086	37½
Ecclesiastical	1,192	24
Charitable Allowances	32,586	43
Education ...	172,509	69
Hospitals ...	198,128	11
Police Services	88,025	3
Prisons Services	234,502	87½
Rent	2,183	52
Transport ...	65,457	13½
Conveyance of Mails	152,770	9
Works and Buildings	65,743	34
Roads, Streets, and Bridges	901,763	96
Miscellaneous	104,292	23
Interest	78,253	41
Colonial Store	15,660	39
Contribution towards Military Expenditure	954,904	30
Government Vessels	18,545	40
Refund of Duties	34,439	92
Lands taken for Government purposes ...	704	22
Immigration	62,293	36
Railway Services	851,286	66
Telegraph Services	101,343	8
Rs....	8,063,664	87

Audit Office,
Colombo, 29th, October, 1883.

R. W. D. MOIR,
Acting Auditor-General and Controller of Revenue.

VIII.—*COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the REVENUE and EXPENDITURE of the Colony of Ceylon, for the Nine Months ended 30th September, 1882 and 1883.*

REVENUE.	Nine months ended 30th September, 1882.	Nine months ended 30th September, 1883.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
Arrears of Revenue of former years recovered	361,607 64	353,209 70	—	8,397 94
Revenue of the Current Year.				
Customs	2,130,092 68	2,011,831 79	—	118,260 89
Port and Harbour Dues	119,018 19	40,573 36	—	78,444 83
Colombo Harbour Dues ...	—	299,455 26	299,455 26	—
Land Sales	202,253 0½	189,017 56	—	13,235 44½
Land Revenue	644,637 40	716,146 8½	71,508 68½	—
Rents, exclusive of Lands ...	270,208 90	239,222 82	—	30,986 8
Licenses	1,079,213 25	1,114,131 25	34,918 0	—
Stamps	634,344 60	580,847 69	—	53,496 91
Taxes, Assessment on Houses and Gardens	14,334 44	17,998 21	3,663 77	—
Postal	177,090 31½	176,946 12	—	144 19½
Fines and Forfeitures	34,676 57	34,382 8	—	294 49
Government Vessels	43,584 79	45,297 66	1,712 87	—
Sale of Government Property ...	691,885 94	715,706 25	23,820 31	—
Reimbursements in aid of expenses incurred by Government ...	262,062 39½	282,585 17	20,522 77½	—
Interest	120,344 51	141,306 36	20,961 85	—
Miscellaneous receipts	222,938 23	210,687 20½	—	12,251 2½
Special Receipts	5,203 88	4,936 36	—	267 52
Pearl Fishery	482 68	220 14	—	262 54
Railway Receipts	2,043,919 73	1,801,504 37	—	242,415 36
Telegraph Receipts	15,185 79	14,046 81	—	1,138 98
Total—Rs	9,073,084 93½	8,990,052 25	476,563 52	559,596 20½
		Deduct Increase ...		476,563 52
		Nett Decrease...Rs.		83,032 68½

EXPENDITURE.	Nine months ended 30th September, 1882.	Nine months ended 30th September, 1883.	Increase.	Decrease.
Establishments.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.	Rs. cts.
Fixed Salaries	1,437,444 18	1,436,162 71	—	1,281 47
Provisional and Temporary Salaries ...	1,667,842 51	1,648,379 44	—	19,463 7
Allowances	32,310 8	48,435 9	16,125 1	—
Office Contingencies	94,691 55½	62,773 85	—	31,917 70½
Services, exclusive of Establishments.				
Pensions and Retired Allowances ...	281,065 54	323,798 36	42,732 82	—
Revenue Services	270,639 24	245,474 61	—	25,164 63
Administration of Justice ...	143,086 37½	128,731 48	—	14,354 89½
Ecclesiastical	1,192 24	2,134 46	942 22	—
Charitable Allowances	32,586 43	31,743 35	—	843 8
Education... ...	172,509 69	173,185 19	675 50	—
Hospitals	198,128 11	257,042 99	58,914 88	—
Police Services	88,025 3	77,094 91	—	10,930 12
Prison Services	234,502 87½	201,900 45½	—	32,602 42
Rent	2,183 52	2,424 4	240 52	—
Transport	65,457 13½	60,683 30½	—	4,773 83
Conveyance of Mails	152,770 9	153,647 79	877 70	—
Works and Buildings	65,743 34	51,151 55	—	14,591 79
Roads, Streets, and Bridges ...	901,763 96	812,545 75	—	89,218 21
Miscellaneous	104,292 23	86,169 31	—	18,122 92
Interest	78,253 41	148,618 73	70,365 32	—
Colonial Store ..	15,660 39	14,302 65	—	1,357 74
Contribution towards Military Expenditure	954,904 30	953,156 10	—	1,748 20
Government Vessels	18,545 40	18,035 60	—	509 80
Refund of Duties	34,439 92	36,630 29	2,190 37	—
Lands taken for Government Purposes ...	704 22	1,000 0	295 78	—
Immigration	62,293 36	53,281 73	—	9,011 63
Railway Services	851,286 66	804,186 69	—	47,099 97
Telegraph Services	101,343 8	17,578 41	—	83,764 67
Total—Rs.	8,063,664 87	7,850,268 84	193,360 12	406,756 15
		Deduct Increase ...		193,360 12
		Nett Decrease ... Rs.		213,396 3

Audit Office,
Colombo, 29th October, 1883.

R. W. D. MOIR,
Acting Auditor-General.

IX.—*COMPARATIVE Statement of the ESTIMATED and ACTUAL REVENUE and EXPENDITURE of the Colony of Ceylon for the Nine Months ended 30th September, 1883.*

REVENUE.	Estimated Revenue for 9 months.		Actual Revenue for 9 months.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	Rs.	cts.	Rs.	cts.	Rs.	cts.	Rs.	cts.
Arrears of revenue of former years recovered	300,000	0	353,209	70	53,209	70	—	
Revenue of the Current Year.							—	
Customs	2,047,500	0	2,011,831	79	—		35,668	21
Port and Harbour Dues	37,500	0	40,573	36	3,073	36	—	
Colombo Harbour Dues	300,000	0	299,455	26	—		544	74
Land Sales	187,500	0	189,017	56	1,517	56	—	
Land Revenue	656,250	0	716,146	8½	59,896	8½	—	
Rents, exclusive of Lands ...	270,000	0	239,222	82	—		30,777	18
Licenses	1,125,000	0	1,114,131	25	—		10,868	75
Stamps	630,000	0	580,847	69	—		49,152	31
Taxes, Assessment on Houses and Gardens	22,500	0	17,998	21	—		4,501	79
Postal	180,000	0	176,946	12	—		3,053	88
Fines and Forfeitures	37,500	0	34,382	8	—		3,117	92
Government Vessels	45,000	0	45,297	66	297	66	—	
Sale of Government Property ...	787,500	0	715,706	25	—		71,793	75
Reimbursements in aid of Expenses incurred by Government ...	225,000	0	282,585	17	57,585	17	—	
Interest	75,000	0	141,306	36	66,306	36	—	
Miscellaneous	262,500	0	210,687	20½	—		51,812	79½
Special Receipts	7,500	0	4,936	36	—		2,563	64
Pearl Fishery	—		220	14	220	14	—	
Railway Receipts	2,062,500	0	1,801,504	37	—		260,995	63
Telegraph Receipts	48,750	0	14,046	81	—		34,703	19
	9,307,500	0	8,990,052	25	242,106	3½	559,553	78½
					Deduct Increase ...		242,106	3½
					Nett Decrease ...		317,447	75

EXPENDITURE.	Estimated Expenditure for 9 months.		Actual Expenditure for 9 months.		Increase.		Decrease.	
Establishments.	Rs.	cts.	Rs.	cts.	Rs.	cts.	Rs.	cts.
Fixed Salaries	1,507,851	75	1,436,162	71	—		71,689	4
Provisional and Temporary Salaries ...	1,780,310	60¼	1,648,379	44	—		131,931	16¼
Allowances	65,636	25	48,435	9	—		17,201	16
Office Contingencies	77,483	2½	62,773	85	—		14,709	17½
Services exclusive of Establishments.								
Pensions and Retired Allowances ...	404,726	3¼	323,798	36	—		80,927	67¼
Revenue Services	350,710	50	245,474	61	—		105,235	89
Administration of Justice ...	141,027	0	128,731	48	—		12,295	52
Ecclesiastical	2,392	50	2,134	46	—		258	4
Charitable Allowances	34,275	0	31,743	35	—		2,531	65
Education	186,963	75	173,185	19	—		13,778	56
Hospitals	344,139	0	257,042	99	—		87,096	1
Police Services	90,847	50	77,094	91	—		13,752	59
Prison Services	267,945	0	201,900	45½	—		66,044	54½
Rent	2,445	0	2,424	4	—		20	96
Transport	75,003	75	60,683	30½	—		14,320	44½
Conveyance of Mails	197,405	42¼	153,647	79	—		43,757	63¼
Works and Buildings	82,762	50	51,151	55	—		31,610	95
Roads, Streets, and Bridges ...	1,058,674	59	812,545	75	—		246,128	84
Miscellaneous	110,697	0	86,169	31	—		24,527	69
Interest	158,002	87½	148,618	73	—		9,384	14½
Colonial Store	28,597	44	14,302	65	—		14,294	79
Contribution towards Military Expenditure	953,625	0	953 156	10	—		468	90
Government Vessels	41,250	0	18,035	60	—		23,214	40
Refund of Duties	33,750	0	36,630	29	2,880	29	—	
Lands taken for Government Purposes	750	0	1,000	0	250	0	—	
Immigration	74,077	50	53,281	73	—		20,795	77
Railway Services	1,105,510	50	804,186	69	—		301,323	81
Telegraph Services	18,033	0	17,578	41	—		454	59
Exchange	26,250	0	—		—		26,250	0
	9,221,142	48¾	7,850,268	84	3,130	29	1,374,003	93¾
					Deduct Increase ...		3,130	29
					Nett Decrease ...		1,370,873	64¾

Audit Office,
Colombo, 29th October, 1883.

R. W. D. MOIR,
Acting Auditor-General.

X.—*ESTIMATE of the REVENUE and EXPENDITURE of the Colony of Ceylon for the Year* 1884.

REVENUE.	Rs.	cts.
Arrears of Revenue of former years ...	390,000	0
Customs	2,700,000	0
Port and Harbour Dues ...	470,000	0
Land Sales	250,000	0
Land Revenue	850,000	0
Rents, exclusive of Land ...	360,000	0
Licenses	1,460,000	0
Stamps	800,000	0
Taxes	30,000	0
Postage	240,000	0
Fines, Forfeitures, and Fees of Court ...	45,000	0
Government Vessels ...	60,000	0
Sale of Government Property ...	1,050,000	0
Reimbursements in aid of Expenses incurred by Government ...	350,000	0
Electric Telegraph	65,000	0
Miscellaneous Receipts ...	320,000	0
Interest	265,000	0
Special Receipts	8,000	0
Railway Receipts	2,700,000	0
Total—Rs.	12,413,000	0

EXPENDITURE.	Rs.	cts.	Rs.	cts.	Rs.	cts.
Fixed Establishments.						
Civil	1,106,367	75				
Do.	4,920	0				
Judicial	596,170	0				
Ecclesiastical	87,200	0				
Public Instruction	37,750	0				
Medical	85,050	0				
Police	23,500	0				
Prisons	10,650	0				
Convict Establishment	12,840	0				
Colonial Store	26,271	25				
			1,990,719	0		
Interest on Breakwater loan	—		353,464	0		
Do. on Waterworks loan	—		140,000	0		
Contribution towards Military Expenditure ...	—		1,000,000	0		
Railway Interest and Sinking Fund	—		613,572	0		
					4,097,755	0
Charges voted by the Legislative Council in Appropriation Ordinance for 1884	—		—		8,270,885	97
					12,368,640	97
Surplus Revenue	—		—		44,359	3
			Total—Rs.		12,413,000	0

Council Chamber,
Colombo, 15th December, 1883.

J DOUGLAS,
Colonial Secretary.

XXIV.—1883.

WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' PENSION FUND.

REPORT of a SUB-COMMITTEE of the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL appointed to report upon the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to make provision for granting Pensions to widows and children of deceased Public Officers of this Colony."

Ordered by the Legislative Council to be Printed.

Colombo:
FRANK LUKER, ACTING GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1884.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Legislative Council, dated 4th January, 1884.

Resolved,—That the following gentlemen be appointed a Sub-Committee to report upon the Bill intituled:

"An Ordinance to make provision for granting Pensions to widows and children of deceased Public Officers of this Colony."

The Hon. F. FLEMING, Attorney-General.

The Hon. R. W. D. MOIR, Acting Auditor-General.

The Hon. F. R. SAUNDERS, Government Agent, Western Province.

The Hon. J. VAN LANGENBERG.
The Hon. A. L. DE ALWIS. } Unofficial Members.
The Hon. G. B. LEECHMAN.

WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' PENSION FUND.

THE Sub-Committee appointed by the Legislative Council to consider and report upon an Ordinance entitled "An Ordinance to make provision for granting pensions to widows and children of deceased public officers of this Colony," have the honor to report as follows :—

1. The Committee, having in view the resolution passed by the Legislative Council on the 17th of November last, recommend the insertion of a preamble in the following terms :—

"Whereas it is desirable to make provision for the granting of pensions to the widows and children of public officers of this Colony ; and whereas by a resolution of the Legislative Council, passed on the 17th day of October, 1883, it was resolved that interest at the rate of six per cent. should be allowed on the capital of the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund for a term of ten years : Be it therefore enacted by the Governor of Ceylon, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof as follows" :—

2. The Committee recommend that the year "1883" in clause 1 be changed to "1884."

3. The Committee recommend that after the word "interest" in the 3rd line of clause 3, the following words be added: "to be paid by the Government for ten years from the date at which this Ordinance shall come into operation."

4. The Committee recommend that the word "shall" be substituted for the word "may" in the 5th line of clause 4.

5. The Committee recommend that before the word "years," when last appearing in clause 6, the word "successive" be inserted.

6. The Committee recommend that clauses 8 and 10 of the bill be deleted, as the Committee consider that what they provide for can be more conveniently inserted in a single clause, and they recommend that 7 should be amended as follows :—After the word "service," in line 2, to insert "or who may be allowed to retire from the public service on account of ill-health before he attains the age at which he would otherwise be entitled to retire, or who may be deprived of the situation in respect of which he contributed to the fund, but who is entitled to retire on a pension," and at the end of the clause to add the following proviso : "Provided that in the event of such public officer at any time intimating his intention in writing to the directors not to so contribute further to the fund, he shall be considered as having ceased to have any interest in the fund, and his widow and children shall have no claim thereon."

The Committee would remark that this option to continue contributing to the fund, although apparently not contemplated by Mr. Hardy's scheme, appears but just, inasmuch as a public officer might otherwise after retirement find himself compelled to continue to subscribe to the fund without any possibility of ever being able to derive any benefit therefrom.

7. The Committee recommend that the present clause 9 should stand as clause 8, and should be amended as follows :—

In lieu of the words "an officer," in the first line, to substitute the words "a public officer," and in lieu of the words "four months," in the last line but one of paragraph 3 of the clause, to substitute the words "six months."

8. The Committee recommend that clause 11 should stand as clause 9, and be amended as follows :—

After the words "his intention," in line 4, to insert the words "in writing"; after the words "that effect," in line 5, to insert the words "to the directors" ; in lieu of the words "thereupon forfeit all claim," in line 18, to substitute the words "have no claim."

9. The Committee recommend that the present clause 30 stand as clause 10 of the bill, and be amended by substituting the words "shall have resigned" for the words "may resign" in line 4.

10. The Committee recommend that clause 12 stand as clause 11, and be amended by inserting after the words "directors thereof" in line 3 ("any three of whom shall form a quorum"), and in lieu of the word "re-election," in the same line, to substitute the word "re-appointment."

11. The Committee recommend that clause 13 stand as clause 14, and that in line 1 the words "six per cent." be substituted for the words "ten per cent." The Committee think that six per cent. of the annual contributions will prove more than sufficient to meet all expenses connected with the management and administration of the fund.

12. The Committee would draw attention to clause 15, which would stand as clause 14, and which provides that the salary of the clerk, whom the directors are authorized to appoint, should form part of the expenses of the fund, inasmuch as the Lieutenant-Governor by his Minute, which was laid before the Legislative Council on the 26th of September last, seems to have assumed that the Government would bear the cost of administering the fund by the payment of an annual sum not exceeding Rs. 1,500 for two clerks.

But as the resolution which was passed by the Legislative Council on the 17th of November, and to which the Committee have already referred, made no mention of this sum, the Committee have not considered themselves warranted in recommending that the provision of the clause providing for the payment of the clerk from the fund be deleted.

13. The Committee recommend that clauses 16, 17, and 18 stand respectively as clauses 15,

16, and 17, and that at the end of clauses 17 and 18, as they now stand, the words "by affidavit or otherwise" be added.

14. The Committee recommend that clause 19 stand as clause 18, and be amended as follows:—That after the word "Ordinance," in line 3, the words "or who being married shall obtain a divorce from his wife," be inserted; that after the word "marriage," in the same line, the words "or divorce" be added; and that after the word "and," in line 4, the word "also" be deleted, and the following words inserted: "in case of marriage."

15. The Committee recommend that clauses 20 and 21 stand respectively as clauses 19 and 20, and that at the end of clause 20, as it now stands, the following be added: "and the marriage of any female child under the age of 21 within six months from the date of such child's marriage."

16. Clause 22 the Committee recommend should stand as clause 21, and be amended as follows:—After the words "any public officer," in line 1, to insert, "whom the directors may consider shall have failed or neglected"; after the word "aforesaid," in line 2, to insert "or who shall, in the opinion of the directors, have given any false information in relation thereto"; to fill up the blank in line 3 by inserting "fifty rupees."

17. The Committee recommend that clauses 23, 24, 25, and 26 should stand as clauses 22, 23, 24, and 25, and that the first three lines of clause 24 as it now stands, down to the words "no child," in the 3rd line, be deleted. The Committee also recommend that the present clause 27 be amended as follows:—After the words "entitled to pensions," in line 1, to insert "or when a widow of a public officer dies and there be a child or children of such public officer then living whose ages would entitle them to pension"; after the words "survived," in line 5, to insert "or had been in receipt of after his death"; and after the words "would have received," in line 6, to insert "or had been receiving."

18. The Committee recommend that clauses 27, 28, and 29 stand respectively as clauses 26, 27, and 28, and that clause 28 as it now stands be amended by striking out the word "such" after the words "entitled to," in line five, and in lieu thereof to substitute the words "the same rate of."

19. The Committee recommend that clauses 31, 32, and 33 stand as clauses 29, 30, and 31 respectively, and that clause 33 as it now stands be amended as follows:—In lieu of the word "whenever," in line 1, that the word "should" be substituted, and that after the word "arises," in line 1, the following be inserted: "as to who is entitled to contribute to the fund, or".

The Committee recommend that clause 34 stand as clause 32, and that after the word "father," in line three of clause 34 as it now stands, the words "or mother, or step-mother, as the case may be," be inserted.

20. Some of the Committee feel strongly inclined not to concur with the provisions of clause 35, which should stand as clause 33, but they fear that were the clause changed in the direction they would desire, such might necessitate a reference back to the actuary, and lead to an indefinite postponement of the measure.

21. The Committee recommend that clauses 36, 37, and 38 stand as clauses 34, 35, and 36, and that the present clause 36 be amended by inserting after the word "rupees," in line three, the words "per annum".

22. The Committee are divided in opinion as regards the present clause 38, which proposes, in conformity with Mr. Hardy's scheme, that contributions made by a bachelor shall be returned, but without interest, upon the retirement on pension unmarried of such officer.

Some of the Committee are of opinion that this clause should be entirely deleted, no such provision being contained in the British Guiana Ordinance, on which this Bill has been, to a considerable extent, based.

The majority of the Committee are of opinion, however, that the amount to be refunded should be reduced to fifty per cent. of the bachelor's contributions.

23. The Committee recommend that clauses 39, 40, and 41 should stand as clauses 37, 38, and 39, and that the present clause 39 be amended by inserting after the words "so desire it," in line 4, the words "and upon his giving notice in writing to the directors of his desire to do so," and omitting the proviso which necessitates a medical examination before an officer, who has retired on pension, can be allowed to continue his contributions based on the salary received by him prior to his retirement.

The Committee recommend that the present clause 39 should be amended as follows: to omit from the words "provided that, &c.," inclusively in line 8 down to the words "to contribute" in line 16, and to substitute the following: "but if such public officer only continue to contribute," and in lieu of the word "becoming," in line 18, to substitute the words "shall become."

The Committee are aware that the proviso only purports to carry out what has been suggested by the actuary in his scheme, but the Committee feel that if to obtain such a certificate were made obligatory on an officer he would be practically deprived of any option to continue his contributions in the manner proposed.

The Committee desire to point out that under the British Guiana Ordinance, although an officer when retiring on pension is only called upon to pay at the rate of four per cent. on his pension towards the fund, yet that the pensions to which his widow and children may become entitled are based upon the salary he received when he left the service. This variance from the terms of the British Guiana Act prejudicially affects public servants, their widows and orphans in Ceylon, as compared with those in British Guiana; but although some of the Committee consider that the provisions in this respect should be the same in Ceylon as in British Guiana, they are unwilling to press an objection that must inevitably involve further reference to the actuary.

24. The Committee recommend that two additional clauses should be added to the Ordinance—one empowering the directors to make rules and regulations, the other defining the meaning of the term "public officer."

The Committee recommend the following to stand as clauses 40 and 41 of the Bill respectively:

"40. It shall be lawful for the directors appointed under this Ordinance to frame rules and regulations not inconsistent therewith for the proper carrying out of the provisions of this Ordinance, provided that all such rules and regulations shall be approved of by the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, and shall be published in the *Government Gazette*."

"41. A "public officer" means, for the purposes of this Ordinance, an officer whose name is on the Fixed Establishments of the Government service of this Colony: Provided that the provisions of this Ordinance shall not apply to any public officer who is by any law entitled to have more than one wife at any one time, nor to the widow or children of any such officer."

The Committee have proposed the proviso to this last-mentioned clause in order to carry out the recommendation of the actuary to the effect that children's pensions under the Ordinance should be restricted to the legitimate children of a monogamous marriage, which recommendation the Committee feel bound to concur in.

F. FLEMING.
R. W. D. MOIR.
F. R. SAUNDERS.
J. VANLENGENBERG.
A. L. DE ALWIS.
G. B. LEECHMAN.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Colombo, 31st January, 1884.

XXV.—1883.

THE COOLY WAGES BILL.

REPORT of a SUB-COMMITTEE of the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL appointed to report upon the Bill intituled "An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 11 of 1865, intituled 'An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the law relating to servants, labourers, and journeymen artificers under contracts for hire and service.'"

Ordered by the Legislative Council to be Printed.

Colombo:
FRANK LUKER, ACTING GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1884.

EXTRACT from the Minutes of the Legislative Council, dated 4th February, 1884.

Resolved,—That the following gentlemen be appointed a Sub-Committee to report upon the Bill intituled .

"An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 11 of 1865, intituled 'An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the law relating to servants, labourers and journeymen artificers, under contracts for hire and service.'"

The Hon. J. DOUGLAS, Colonial Secretary.
The Hon. F. FLEMING, Attorney-General.
The Hon. R. W. D. MOIR, Acting Auditor-General.
The Hon. J. F. DICKSON, Government Agent, Central Province.
The Hon. J. VAN LANGENBERG,
The Hon. P. RÁMA-NÁTHAN,
The Hon. J. L. SHAND,
The Hon. G. B. LEECHMAN,
} Unofficial Members.

THE COOLY WAGES BILL.

THE Sub-Committee appointed by the Legislative Council to consider a draft Ordinance intituled "An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 11 of 1865, intituled 'An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the law relating to servants, labourers and journeymen artificers, under contracts for hire and service,'" have given much attention to this important measure, and have the honour to report as follows.

The draft Ordinance, as dealt with by the Sub-Committee in this report, differs from that originally introduced into the Legislature, in that certain alterations have been proposed in clauses 2, 3, 4 and 5, while clauses 6 to 14, inclusive, are, it is understood, omitted altogether. New clauses numbered 6, 7, and 9 have been proposed, while clause 15 of the original draft stands re-numbered as clause 11. It is the draft thus materially modified that will be dealt with by the Sub-Committee in the following report.

Clause 1.—With the view of giving to labourers working upon weeding or other similar contracts the same protection for their just dues which is proposed in the case of ordinary labourers, it is recommended that the following additions be made to clause 1, viz., that to the definition of the term labourer be added the words "and every contractor for weeding or other agricultural labour performed in working the estate," and that the term "wages" be defined to include "all sums which may be due on any contract for hire or service, and all sums due to any contractor for weeding or other agricultural labour performed in working the estate." It would be well also that the clause should commence, as is usual, in definition clauses with the words: "The following words in this Ordinance shall have the meaning hereby assigned to them."

Clause 2.—Besides certain verbal alterations suggested in this clause, it is proposed to allow proof of part-payment of wages in kind not merely to the employer, but also to any party who may be interested in a suit for wages due, and to extend this provision to any other person allowed by the court to intervene in the suit. This has been inserted in the interest of persons having mortgages on estates.

In regard, further, to that portion of this clause by which it is proposed to extend the period of primary lien on estates for wages due, the Sub-Committee are strongly and unanimously of opinion that it is preferable in the interest of the labourer, and at the same time just to the mortgagee, to retain the period of three months as at present, making it clear that the wages so secured are wages in full—not balances of wages for the particular period only.

If this recommendation be adopted it will involve no injustice to those who have lent money upon the security of the estate, while in a case of long arrears of wages outstanding the security of the cooly will be greater than if the term of priority for balance of wages only were extended to four or even six months.

Clause 3.—Clause 3 of the draft appears to the Sub-Committee to have become unnecessary in consequence of the deletion of clauses 6 and 7 of the original draft, for it confers upon the Courts of Requests no powers or obligations with which those courts are not already vested. It may, however, be desirable to declare in terms that the price at which necessaries are supplied to the labourers must be fair and reasonable, and it is proposed to insert words to this effect in the new clause 3.

In lieu, also, of the limitation of the time of action in respect of preferential claims for wages contained in the first proviso to clause 18 of Ordinance No. 11 of 1865, the meaning of which is open to considerable doubt, it is proposed to add to clause 2 a proviso that any suit for the recovery of such wages must be instituted within three months of the last day of the period for which any such wages are claimed.

A new clause has been inserted declaring that in suits for non-payment of wages it shall be sufficient to designate the party sued as the proprietor of the estate on which the labourer had been employed. This is thought to be the most simple and expeditious mode of bringing the suit, and it avoids the difficulties which have been found to underlie the direction of the suit against the employer. The mode of procedure is defined in rules and orders attached in a schedule to the Ordinance, and it is proposed to take in this clause authority for such rules and orders. It is also proposed to empower a mortgagee of an estate to liquidate the preferential claims of the coolies and add the payment so made to his mortgage, the amount so added to rank *pari passu* with that mortgage.

New clause 8.—The Sub-Committee are of opinion that the return of arrears of wages, if any, outstanding should take the form of a declaration added to the return required by Ordinance No. 17 of 1862, giving the date prior to the close of the quarter to which the return may relate up to which the labourers of the estate in question have been paid in full; and that the form in which this declaration should be made be given in a schedule attached to this Ordinance.

A motion to add to the form of declaration the following words, "the value of food, clothes, or other necessaries supplied to the labourers subsequent to the date above mentioned has not been deducted in whole or in part from the wages declared as paid and settled up to that date," was carried, the division taken being as under :—

For.	*Against.*
The Hon. J. VanLangenberg.	The Hon. G. B. Leechman.
The Government Agent, Central Province.	The Hon. J. L. Shand.
The Auditor-General.	
The Attorney-General.	
The Lieutenant-Governor.	

The Mercantile Member voted against this motion, because he considered the addition of the proposed words unnecessary, the meaning of the schedule as it stood being already quite clear without the words proposed to be added.

New clause 9.—It is recommended that the punishment for an omission to make the required declaration be fixed at Rs. 100 without imprisonment, but that the penalty for wilful neglect or refusal to make the declaration be the same as that provided for making a false return.

In reference to the power given to the Attorney-General in clause 10 to enter a plaint on behalf of the labourers for the recovery of their wages, some members of the Sub-Committee were desirous of inserting a provision requiring the consent of the coolies before action should be taken on their behalf.

The majority of the Sub-Committee, while they think it most unlikely that Government would intervene in the interest of the labourers without reference to the wishes of those whom it was desirous to protect, apprehend that complication and delays might arise in the recovery of wages were a provision requiring the consent of the labourer to any action inserted in the Ordinance. Upon a division being taken, the votes were:—

For the insertion of the provision.	*Against.*
The Hon. G. B. Leechman.	The Government Agent, Central Province.
The Hon. J. L. Shand.	The Auditor-General.
The Hon. J. VanLangenberg.	The Attorney-General.
	The Lieutenant-Governor.

The verbal alterations suggested in this clause sufficiently explain themselves.

The Sub-Committee recommend the deletion of the first paragraph of clause 11 (clause 18 of the original draft), and that certain verbal alterations be made in the second line of the second paragraph.

It has been found necessary to provide machinery for the procedure of the courts in investigating claims for wages, as well to meet the special provisions of the draft now under review, as to remedy defects which have been brought to light by experience in respect of Ordinance No. 11 of 1865.

The only provisions in these rules and orders which appear to require special notice are those in (3), requiring the court in determining claims for wages to apply any payments alleged to have been made in partial discharge of wages towards the payment of antecedent wages in the order of time in which the same became due ; in (4) allowing the court to sell a portion only of an estate in satisfaction of claims for wages ; (this would include the crop before it is severed from the trees) ; and in (5) and (7), the object of which is to secure payment of claims to the rightful parties by requiring the money to be paid into and distributed by the court.

As so many changes from the original draft are recommended, it will be convenient to append a copy of the original draft exhibiting those changes, and a copy of the Bill as it is now reported by the Sub-Committee.

J. DOUGLAS.
F. FLEMING.
R. W. D. MOIR.
J. F. DICKSON.
JAMES VANLANGENBERG.
P. RA'MA-NA'THAN.
J. L. SHAND.
GEO. B. LEECHMAN.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Colombo, 11th February, 1884.

PROTEST.

In signing this report we desire to place on record the opinion that, in view of the improved position with regard to the recovery of his wages in which the labourer will be placed after the passing of this Ordinance, the interference of Government should be limited to cases where it shall, after full enquiry, appear to the Governor in Council that the wages of labourers are in jeopardy of loss, or that there is danger of a public scandal being caused ; that such interference should in all cases be with the consent of the labourers interested ; and that provisions accordingly should be inserted in section 10 of the new Ordinance as reported by the Sub-Committee.

JAMES VANLANGENBERG.
J. L. SHAND.
GEO. B. LEECHMAN.

XXVI.—1883.

GRAIN TAX COMMUTATION.

REPORTS

ON THE

COMMUTATION SETTLEMENTS OF CERTAIN DIVISIONS OF THE GALLE AND MATARA DISTRICTS,

UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF "THE GRAIN TAX ORDINANCE, 1878."

(In continuation of Sessional Paper No. VI. of 1883.)

Ordered by His Excellency the Governor to be Printed.

Colombo:
FRANK LUKER, ACTING GOVERNMENT PRINTER, CEYLON.

1884.

GRAIN TAX COMMUTATION.

REPORT ON THE COMMUTATION SETTLEMENT IN THE WẸLLABOḌA PATTU, THE GAṆGABOḌA PATTU, AKMIMANA, AND THE FOUR GRAVETS OF THE DISTRICT OF GALLE, IN THE SOUTHERN PROVINCE.

1. The Grain Tax Ordinance came into force in the Wẹllaboḍa Pattu, the Gaṇgaboḍa Pattu, Akmimana, and the gravets of the Galle District on the 1st January, 1883, under the Proclamations of the 25th July, 21st September, and 3rd November, 1882.

2. The commutation settlement was commenced in the Wẹllaboḍa Pattu on the 1st August, 1882, and was completed on the 15th March following.

3. The results of the work are given in appendix I.

4. Appendix II. is a statement of lands which are exempted from grain tax, with the probable value of the exemption.

5. Appendices III., IV., and V. contain a few notes made during the progress of the settlement in each division.

6. The district price of paddy was fixed at one rupee per bushel for annual-commutation, and one rupee and twenty-five cents for crop-commutation.

7. The tables of land measure and of dry measure, which are given in appendix IV. to my report upon Sabaragamuwa, are applicable to these divisions. In the gravets it is said that the amuna contains forty-eight or forty kurunis, but the latter is the quantity most usually adopted.

8. The terms upon which the Government will sell its right to levy a share in excess of the ordinary tithe of the crops of certain lands were explained carefully in every village.

A. R. DAWSON,
Grain Commissioner.

Taṇgalla, 25th November, 1883.

APPENDIX.

I.

Results of Work.

	Wẹllaboḍa Pattu.			Gaṇgaboḍa Pattu.			Four Gravets and Akmimana.			Total.		
Number of Villages	100			99			98			297		
Do. parcels of land ...	6,536			7,348			2,923			16,807		
	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.
Extent of land	7,197	3	20	11,051	0	20	4,221	2	13	22,470	2	13
Extent, one-half of the produce of which is payable to the Government ...	0	3	0	6	0	0	0	0	30	6	3	30
Do. one third do. do. ...	—			3	2	0	—			3	2	0
Do. one-fourth do. do. ...	19	1	20	469	0	10	0	2	20	489	0	10
Do. three-twentieths do. do. ..	—			3	3	0	—			3	3	0
Do. one-fifth do. do. ...	12	1	0	250	1	0	18	1	30	280	3	30
Do. one-eighth do. do. ...	236	2	0	110	3	0	—			347	1	0
Do. one tenth do. do. ...	6,929	0	0	10,207	3	10	4,202	1	13	21,339	0	23
Extent upon which annual-commutation is due	7,157	2	10	10,280	2	20	3,819	0	28	21,257	1	18
Do. crop-commutation is due ...	40	1	10	770	2	0	402	1	25	1,213	0	35
	Rs.	cts.		Rs.	cts.		Rs.	cts.		Rs.	cts.	
Amount payable as annual-commutation ...	13,757	60		15,931	40		7,276	20		36,965	20	
Rate per acre of annual-commutation ...	1	92		1	54		1	90		1	73	
Amount payable as crop-commutation ...	51	54		1,168	60		508	58		1,728	72	
Rate per acre of crop-commutation ...	1	28		1	51		1	26		1	42	
Average revenue derived annually during the last 14 years by sale of the Government shares of crops	11,996	28		14,661	78		7,450	12		34,108	18	
Do. do. 7 years do. ...	13,284	54		14,538	14		8,711	76		36,534	44	

II.

Lands free of Tax. (Nature of exemption.—Tax redeemed.)

	Native sowing measure.			Acreage.			Probable value of Tax.	
	B.	P.	Q.	A.	R.	P.	Rs.	cts.
Wẹllaboḍa Pattu ...	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	92
Gaṇgaboḍa Pattu ...	14	0	0	7	0	0	10	78
Akmimana and the Gravets of Galle ...	10	0	0	5	0	0	9	50
Total ...	26	0	0	13	0	0	22	20

In all those villages which escape flooding, fields are cultivated for both the harvests of the year—maha and yala.

Máwí, handiran, karayal, kiri-náran, ratawí, and dewareddiri are usually grown. Máwí, ratawí and handiran stand submersion best. Karayal is generally sown when bone-manure is used, and this variety, it is considered, makes the most palatable rice. Carolina was tried and failed. Tawalu, panniti, and polayel are grown on owita lands. These are the only crops in the district which it is considered worth while to weed.

A small quantity of straw is taken by water to Galle. More commonly it is left to rot, or is burnt in the field.

In and around Udugama cattle are plentiful. Elsewhere, it seems that they are deficient in number, and are more or less neglected.

Hoof-and-mouth disease is a common ailment, and is treated in much the same way as it is in the inland villages of the Wellaboda Pattu.

Large quantities of ghee and curds are made. The latter, served with treacle, is a favourite dish at wedding-feasts.

The Paddy Cultivation Ordinance of 1867 is in force in Opáta, Puhuldú-yáya, and the sub-divisions of Mápalagama and Baddégama. Rules have been passed which provide for the appointment and remuneration of irrigation headmen, for proper fencing, clearing of water-courses, the fair distribution of water, and so on. They are not, however, it occurred to me, favourably regarded by the cultivators, and are not, therefore, strictly enforced. More than once I was told that after the introduction of the Grain Tax Ordinance the payment of huwandiram the fee due to the irrigation headmen would cease. If this is permitted, the rules will become useless. At present there can be no doubt that, owing to their existence, the village headmen are more efficient, and cultivation is more carefully managed than in the Wellaboda Pattu.

Only owita and high-lying fields are ploughed. Tilling with the hoe, though a longer and more laborious process than ploughing, is more effective. It is not, however, on that account that it is practised, but out of sheer necessity, either because cattle are scarce, or—owing to want of food, crop following crop too closely to admit of pasturing in the stubble—are too weak for fieldwork.

Ten-fold is admitted to be the general average yield of middle-class land, an acre of which is worth from Rs. 120 to Rs. 200.

Here, too, there is a want of fence materials. In some villages fencing has been given up altogether, cattle being tethered on the high-lands—where they can get very little to eat—or driven off to some common pasture ground elsewhere.

The Mudaliyár informs me that he has tried sowing in a nursery and transplanting, on a small scale, with very great success.

This is the only division of all those the commutation settlement of which has been entrusted to me from which the Government have derived less revenue from grain, on an average, during the last seven years, than during the immediately preceding seven years.

During the fourteen years, 1868 to 1881, the average amount collected annually was Rs. 14,661·78; during the first seven of those fourteen years, from 1868 to 1874, it was Rs. 14,785, but during the last seven years, 1875 to 1881, it was only Rs. 14,538·14.

Although the diminishment is not large, that it should have happened while in every other district an increase was taking place, is an interesting circumstance, and one that might be more closely examined. It may be due to the area under paddy having decreased as the cultivation of sugar-cane extended, or, possibly, to heavier rainfall and more severe inundations.

V.

Notes on Akmimana and the Gravets of Galle.

The small populous division which surrounds and includes the town of Galle, although lying very low—scarcely in some places above the level of the sea, is seldom visited by flood, and never by drought. Excepting in the villages Opáta and Batuwantudáwa, which are badly-drained swampy tracts, two crops a year off the same land are taken commonly, and manures are freely used.

Ratawi, handiran, and kaharamaná are the favourite varieties of paddy. Carolina was tried simultaneously with the experiments made in other parts of the Galle District, and at first successfully. It must have very much degenerated since, as what is supposed to have descended from the seed originally imported is now quite an ordinary grain. Quickly-maturing kinds of paddy of the best quality are grown upon owita lands.

Straw finds a ready sale in the markets of the town.

Cattle are scarce, and whether as food, in the field, or on the road, are, from the usual causes, miserably wanting. The beef of the Galle market, first-class town though it pretends to be, is remarkably bad.

The sub-division of Akmimana and Uluwitiké, a part of the gravets, were in 1869 brought under the Paddy Cultivation Ordinance, and irrigation headmen were appointed, their remuneration was provided for, and other regulations calculated to benefit cultivators and to encourage and enforce the maintenance of their old customs and habits were passed. Still there seemed to me to be a marked absence of unanimity amongst them, and a want of respect which one could not fail to observe, for the advice and opinions of their headmen. They appeared, in fact, to have quite lost the characteristic bearing and sentiments of a Sinhalese agricultural community.

Nevertheless, according to the revenue test, their agricultural interests have, of late years, advanced, the average of the last seven years exhibiting an increase of as much as forty per cent. on that of the like period preceding.

No assistance in respect of irrigation has been given to these people by the Government. They have, however, the advantage of a climate which is almost perfect for the production of paddy, with a rainfall of forty-seven inches during the season of the south-west monsoon, and of forty-three inches during the remainder of the twelve months.

REPORT UPON THE COMMUTATION SETTLEMENT OF THE GRAVETS, AND THE GAṆGABOḌA, WĘLLABOḌA, AND KANDABOḌA PATTU OF THE DISTRICT OF MATARA, SOUTHERN PROVINCE.

1. The commutation settlement of the gravets of Mátara, and of its Gaṇgaboḍa, Węllaboḍa, and Kandaboḍa Pattu was commenced on the 1st April, under the authority of the Proclamations of the 9th April, 2nd June, and 27th November of this year.

2. The district prices of paddy were the same as those fixed for the Galle district.

3. The results of the work are included in appendix I., and a few notes upon the agricultural condition of the different pattus in the appendices which follow.

4. Acreage, in relation to the native sowing measures, has been calculated as it was in my last report.

5. There were only two claims to exemption from grain-tax, and they were rejected by order of the Government.

6. Those holding lands subject to taxes above a tithe of their produce were advised of the terms upon which a redemption of the excess can now be made.

7. All those irrigation works, with the exception of a small tank at Bóralé in the Węligam Kóralé, which have been made by the Government during the last fifteen years in the district of Mátara lie within these divisions, the grain revenue from which has, in consequence, risen from an annual average of Rs. 43,200 between 1869 and 1875, to one of Rs. 56,000 between 1876 and 1882.

This increase represents, of course, the direct and tangible interest on the cost of the works, but indirectly the return must have been far more valuable, for the largely-increased quantity of food which has followed upon a certain and sufficient supply of water to cultivation has advanced the general prosperity of the district, and, if it has not already distinctly augmented its general revenues, has saved them from the diminishment which of late years has occurred in those of some other parts of the Island.

The annual water-rate of one rupee per acre, which is levied on all lands benefited by the Government irrigation works, is expended each year upon their upkeep.

A. R. DAWSON,
Grain Commissioner.

Taṇgalla, 10th December, 1883.

APPENDIX.

I.

Results of Work.

	The Gravets of Mátara.			Gaṇgaboḍa Pattu.			Węllaboḍa Pattu.			Kandaboḍa Pattu.			Total.		
Number of villages ...	24			93			23			63			203		
Do. parcels of land ...	1,141			7,557			2,621			4,197			15,516		
	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.	A.	R.	P.
Extent of land ...	1,941	2	35	14,639	1	5	4,057	2	35	6,133	3	12½	26,772	2	7½
Extent, one-half of the produce of which is payable to the Government ...	3	3	20	64	1	20	6	0	0	1	2	20	75	3	20
Do. one-third do. ...	—			—			5	1	0	—			5	1	0
Do. one-fourth do. ...	—			13	0	20	11	2	7½	3	2	27½	28	1	15
Do. one-fifth do. ...	8	2	0	817	0	7½	92	1	7½	455	0	5	1,372	3	20
Do. three-twentieths ...	—			44	2	0	—			—			44	2	0
Do. one-eighth ...	—			6	0	20	—			1	0	20	7	1	0
Do. one-tenth ...	1,929	1	15	13,694	0	17½	3,942	2	20	5,672	1	20	25,238	1	32½
Extent upon which annual commutation is due ...	695	3	30	13,841	0	10	2,838	2	5	5,088	2	30	22,464	0	35
Do. crop-commutation do....	1,245	3	5	798	0	35	1,219	0	30	1,045	0	22½	4,308	1	12½
	Rs.	cts.		Rs.	cts.		Rs.	cts.		Rs.	cts.		Rs.	cts.	
Amount payable as annual commutation ...	1,139	32		30,073	97		5,606	79		12,410	5		49,230	13	
Rate per acre of do. ...	1	63		2	17		1	97		2	43		2	14	
Amount payable as crop commutation ...	2,287	84		1,423	78		2,726	12		1,909	78		8,347	52	
Rate per acre of do. ...	1	83		1	78		2	23		1	82		1	93	
Average revenue derived annually during the last fourteen years by sale of the Government shares of crops...	1,700	87		29,300	23		6,069	49		12,526	7		49,596	66	
Do. seven years do. ..:	2,124	89		31,324	85		7,897	91		14,666	3		56,013	68	

II.

Notes on the Gravets of Mátara.

The principal irrigation works in this small division are two tanks at Kumbalgama and Mákáwiṭa.

The Kękanaduré tank, which is in the division adjoining on the east, the Węllaboḍa pattu, irrigates about 50 acres in the village Talpáwela. It is intended, too, as a reservoir for the smaller tanks, but its water is chiefly used in the Węllaboḍa pattu.

The tank in Mákáwiṭa irrigates 170 acres, and that in Kumbalgama about 55 acres.

Further works of supply are not needed, but if it were possible to drain off the superabundant water which collects in Hittęṭiya, Goḍagama, and Lénadúwa, large additional tracts of land could be put under cultivation.

Excepting on the extreme east, the whole division suffers severely from the flood-waters of the Nilwala-gaṇga, which submerge the whole country on the west and a part towards the east, the waters of the Polwatté-oya coming down from Talpé Pattu of the Galle district and completing the mischief.

Situated, as the division is, in close proximity to the mouths of these rivers, and being in many parts below sea-level, it has been found, after careful examination, to be impossible, by creating additional outlets, to lessen the duration of the floods.

About twenty-five of the best kinds of paddy, including Carolina, or ęjęṇṭa-wí as it is locally termed, are grown. The first experiments made with this grain not having been successful, it has failed to become popular. I was unable, indeed, to procure a sample of it.

As much straw as there is a demand for in Mátara and on the main thoroughfares is sold, and the remainder is burnt in the field.

The number of cattle is insufficient for agricultural requirements, and must remain so in the absence of suitable pasture grounds, and while no attention is paid by their owners to breeding.

The prevalent diseases are those of the hoof-and-mouth, sore-throat, and murrain with constipation and with purging.

An animal affected with disease of the hoof is made to stand in a pool of slush as a protection against flies, a little oil of resin or of the cashewnut being now and then applied to the hoof. Buffaloes when attacked at once make for their usual water-holes, and there remain until they feel relief. Near the coast the salt-water cure is practised.

Disease of the mouth is seldom of sufficient importance to demand special treatment.

Sore-throat, on the other hand, is regarded as a dangerous disorder, for which the native surgeons have not yet discovered an effective remedy.

In cases of murrain with constipation, a favourite expedient, and one which gives relief, is to blow up the nostrils the juices of ginger-root, chilies, and other pungent vegetables. Aperient medicines are then administered, and sometimes the body is branded with cabalistic marks.

For murrain with purging, the juice of the kaparawalleya plant mixed with oil of sesamum, or a mash of unripe woodapples and opium is given.

It is not customary to pen cattle. During the maha season they are sent away to other parts of the country, and are brought back when the yala season arrives. In the day-time they are tethered wherever pasture can be found, and at night are brought home and tied up, without shelter, to the fruit-trees standing about their owner's dwelling-house.

Curdled buffalo milk is a favourite article of food. It is not usual to milk black cattle.

The whole of the division has been brought under the Paddy Cultivation Ordinance of 1867, and rules, which could scarcely be improved upon, are in full force.

All the old habits and customs in respect of paddy cultivation have been carefully preserved.

A staff of irrigation headmen has been formed, the Vidáné Aráchchi being ex-officio chief of his division, and the Vel-vidánés ranking next.

All receive, as pay, a portion of the huwándiram, which is recovered in every village. The first charge on it is made for the benefit of the local irrigation fund—one-sixth, the Vidáné Arachchi gets two-sixths, and the other three-sixths is divided equally among the Vel-vidánés.

There has been marked progress in the cultivation of paddy since the completion of the irrigation works and the enforcement of these rules, the increase in grain revenue during the periods considered above, in paragraph No. 7 of my report, having been as high as sixty-six per cent.

It is said that a pęla in dry measure is equal to twelve kurunies, and a pęla in land measure to ten kurunies. No one could give me any explanation of this anomaly, and it has, I believe, no real existence.

Ten bushels is considered to be the average yield on one bushel's sowing extent (half an acre) of fair ordinary field. The market value of an acre of such land is placed at Rs. 100.

No manures of any kind are used.

A. R. DAWSON,
Grain Commissioner.

III.

Notes on the Gaṇgaboḍa Pattu.

More than half of the whole acreage of paddy land in the four divisions upon which I report belongs to this fine Pattu, which possesses, too, the most extensive system of irrigation.

Háli-ęla tank, in the village Aturaliya, directly irrigates only two hundred and twenty acres, but its water is used during the dry weather in supplementing the action of the anicuts at Urápola, Pettaré, and Alawatugoḍa.

Elléwela tank, in the Kandaboḍa Pattu, is used exclusively for the irrigation of a thousand acres in the Gaṇgaboḍa Pattu.

The anicut at Sapugoḍa, across the Kirama-oya, independently of any tank assistance, irrigates three hundred acres; that at Urâpola thirteen hundred acres, and the dams at Pettaré and Alawatugoḍa in Kitalagama, together, twelve hundred acres.

Most of these works are of recent construction, and have not yet made their full mark upon the grain revenue of the division, the increase in which, in comparison with what has occurred elsewhere, is small—not more than fourteen per cent.

In order to complete the system, a work is needed in the sub-division which goes by the name of the Belpágams, where there are seven hundred acres capable of asweddumization or improvement. Its necessity has been recognized by the administrative officers of the Province, and, scientifically, it has been declared practicable.

The Nilwala-gaṇga and its tributaries, the Kirama-oya and the Howundu-ára, traverse the whole length of the Pattu, and occasionally inundate the lower stretches of land—the gaṇga those on the east and south, the oya those in the centre, and the ára those towards the west. The villages on the north escape.

The sub-divisions Nadugala, Attuḍáwa, Pálaṭuwa, Angunna, Badulla, Náyimbala, and Kapúduwa, all lying near the boundaries of the gravets and the mouth of Nilwala-gaṇga, suffer severely. Their fields are fertile, however, and bear grand crops whenever the season has been favourable. It is only under a flood of extraordinary duration, or one that happens within ten days or a fortnight of sowing, or when the plants are about to ear, that much loss happens.

Samples of thirty-six different kinds of paddy, of varying quality grown in the division, were shown to me by the Mudaliyár, some of which in appearance, weight, and flavour compared favourably with the best kinds of imported rice.

The cultivation of Carolina is far past the experimental stage, it is largely grown, and has in some villages supplanted favourite indigenous varieties.

The use of manures is considered to be unnecessary.

Hín-táwalu, panniṭi, and polayal are grown upon owiṭas in the Belpágams and in Aturaliya.

There is no regular trade in straw. On those fields that belong to persons who reside in Mátara it is appropriated and removed by the owners. Whatever may remain is burnt on the spot.

The number of buffaloes is said to be 1,800, and of black cattle 6,000, not a half of which are fit for work in the field. The plough, therefore, is rarely used; only twice during my stay in the Pattu did I see one at work. An unusual objection advanced against the use of a deep-cutting implement was that it would turn up a sub-soil, present in all paddy fields about ten inches below the surface, which is inimical to the growth of the paddy plant.

All those maladies amongst cattle, of which mention is made in my notes on the gravets, are known here, and their treatment is much the same.

The Village Communities Ordinance is in force throughout the division, with Village Tribunals and an admirable code of regulations, by means of which the spread of sickness can be readily encountered and checked.

Cattle are never stall-fed, those only being sent to the shambles which have been rejected as past work of any kind.

All cows are milked, and the milk is eaten in curd.

In the villages of the upper sub-divisions, maha is the principal harvest of the year; in the lower parts of the Pattu, yala; while towards the centre, cultivation is carried on for both harvests.

The cattle of a maha village are removed during the season and are grazed where yala fields are lying fallow, and *vice versâ*.

Where lands are cropped twice, the want of pasture is much felt, and cattle are falling off in number and in quality.

The formation of common grazing grounds has been under consideration, and two blocks of land have been selected for the purpose. A want of funds, I believe, alone hinders the completion of the project.

The rules passed under the Paddy Cultivation Ordinance for the gravets apply to this Pattu, and, indeed, to the whole of the Mátara district. They have been carefully enforced, and their operation has been most successful.

The staff of irrigation headmen is of similar constitution to that of the gravets—it is, I believe, common to the district generally—and its remuneration is similarly provided for.

There are not more than three hundred acres of Crown land left which are fit to be asweddumized, and the bulk of this needs drainage and not irrigation.

About three hundred acres of swamp in the Belpagams has recently passed into the hands of a capitalist who is engaged in improving it, and at present with good prospects of success. The exemption from grain-tax, conceded by the 15th clause of the Grain Tax Ordinance, is highly appreciated, and is a strong incentive towards efforts of this kind.

It is customary only to fence fields for the yala harvest, and it is, therefore, in the lower sub-divisions alone, where little jungle remains, that a difficulty is experienced in procuring materials.

Cultivators excuse themselves for not weeding their crops on the grounds of want of sufficient hands and of the risk involved, the paddy plant having so slight a hold upon the soil. Women are never employed on such work as they are in the Kandyan villages.

It would be difficult to point to a division—I know of none—where the paddy cultivator is more comfortably circumstanced than he is in this Pattu. He has a good climate, good soil, a

THE PENAL AND CRIMINAL PROCEDURE CODES.

The Right Hon. the EARL OF DERBY to Governor the Hon. A. H. GORDON, G.C.M.G.

Ceylon.—No. 31. Downing-street, 23rd January, 1884.

SIR,—REFERRING to my despatches No. 29 and No. 30 of this day's date, conveying Her Majesty's gracious confirmation and allowance of the Penal Code and Criminal Procedure Code Ordinances, I have the honour to express my appreciation of the care which the Legislative Council bestowed on the consideration of these Codes.

2. The fact that a full and searching criticism of measures of such magnitude and importance has resulted in but few alterations, reflects great credit on the Chief Justice, by whom they were drafted.

3. I have also noticed with much satisfaction the skill and judgment displayed by Sir John Douglas in conducting the Ordinances through the Council, and the ability with which he was seconded by the Queen's Advocate, whose recent arrival and want of experience of local circumstances necessarily placed him at some disadvantage in discussing their details, which, however, he successfully overcame.

4. I confidently anticipate a great improvement in the administration of justice in Ceylon from the enactment of these much-needed laws, and I shall be glad to learn that the consideration of the Civil Procedure Code, which was interrupted by the more pressing claims of the Criminal Codes, has been resumed.

I have, &c.,
DERBY.